

Pinellas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan



Volume I – Base Plan

June 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Pinellas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)* establishes the framework for how the County as a whole will prepare for, respond to, and recover from all hazards that could adversely affect the health, safety, and general welfare of residents and visitors. The *CEMP* outlines the responsibilities and coordination processes of County agencies, municipalities, whole community partners, and other taxing districts in relation to preparedness, response and recovery activities. Mitigation measures that are critical to the resilience of a community are coordinated and documented in the *Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)*. The *LMS* identifies potential hazards and vulnerabilities and identifies mitigation measures and as such is referenced within the *CEMP* to ensure congruence.

The *CEMP* complies with and adopts the *National Incident Management System (NIMS)*¹ as the standard for agencies who support emergency incidents covered by this plan. This plan parallels state activities outlined in the *State of Florida CEMP*, federal activities set forth in the *Federal Response Plan*, and describes how local, state, and national resources will be coordinated to supplement local response and recovery capability. The *CEMP* is in compliance with the criteria issued by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM).

The *CEMP* is organized into five volumes²:

1. **Volume I – The Basic Plan.** This plan provides a high level overview of the purpose, scope, organization, and methodology for coordinating various emergency management activities and the potential hazards within Pinellas County. This includes how agencies prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate for any large scale disaster and is submitted to the state for review and approval.
2. **Volume II – Hazard Specific Plans.** These plans provide more specific information on the response and the roles and responsibilities for the following hazards: Flood, Terrorism, Public Health Emergencies, Environmental Impacts and Mass Casualty Incidents. This volume also contains the Protective Measures Implementation Guide that can be utilized for a number of scenarios.
3. **Volume III – Emergency Support Functions (ESFs).** The organizational structure of ESFs groups together entities that will coordinate efforts for functional areas. Each plan provides an overview of the functional response and identifies the lead, support, and coordinating entities and their roles and responsibilities during the four phases of an emergency.
4. **Volume IV – Operational Guides.** These guides are for personnel who are responsible for implementing field operations and provide detailed information,

¹ Pursuant to Resolution 05/226, Adopted 10/04/2005

² As of May 2021, a number of the plans identified in Volumes II-V are still under development but are part of the Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM) Strategic Plan.


checklists and job specific aids for operations under the responsibility of Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM).

5. **Volume V – Recovery Implementation Guide.** This guide provides an overview of short and long term recovery including a Cost Recovery Guide, unmet needs of disaster survivors and disaster housing.

The *CEMP* was developed in partnership by PCEM, the agencies who comprise the ESFs, and personnel involved in preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation activities.

Letter of Promulgation

Letter of Promulgation signed by the County Administrator. *(Drafted Placeholder)*

 <p>Pinellas County EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</p>	<p>County Administration</p>
<p>Month DD, 2021</p>	
<p>Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of County Commissioners Constitutional Officers and Appointing Authorities of Pinellas County Mayors and City Managers of Municipalities Chairpersons of Special Fire Control Districts Partner Agency Emergency Management Coordinators Pinellas County Department Directors</p>	
<p>This letter serves as the official promulgation of the 2021 update and revision to the Pinellas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).</p>	
<p>Pinellas County Emergency Management, in collaboration with municipal, local, state, federal, and non-governmental partners completed the revision on June 11, 2021. The plan was reviewed by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and found in compliance with Florida Administrative Code and other requirements on [DATE].</p>	
<p>The Board of County Commissioners, sitting in regular session on [DATE] adopted the CEMP pursuant to Resolution [NUMBER].</p>	
<p>Effective immediately, this plan establishes the framework of how Pinellas County and its partners will prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. For more information, please contact Pinellas County Emergency Management at 727-464-3800.</p>	
<p>Sincerely,</p>	
<p>Barry A. Burton County Administrator</p>	
<p>315 Court Street, Room 601 Clearwater, FL 33756 Phone (727) 464-3485 Fax (727) 464-4384 V/TDD (727) 464-4062 www.pinellascounty.org</p>	



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1 INTRODUCTION

The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (*CEMP*) establishes a framework of how Pinellas County and its partners will prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Every county is required to maintain a *CEMP* pursuant to §252.35 of Florida State Statutes (FSS), and the local Board of County Commissioners (BCC) must adopt it every four (4) years.

Volume I of the *CEMP* is the base plan and is a high-level document to identify direction and control and coordination between County, local, state and federal agencies and partners.

1.1 Purpose/Scope

The purpose of the *CEMP* is to describe basic strategies, assumptions, and mechanisms through which the County will mobilize resources and conduct activities to guide and support local emergency management efforts through preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM) is the designated lead for development and maintenance of this plan.

This plan is applicable countywide and includes all elected officials, political subdivisions, County departments and agencies, special fire control districts, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other whole community partners.

The collaborative processes used to develop preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation measures within Pinellas County are identified in *Section 1.2: Methodology*.

This plan is applicable to all hazards as identified in *Section 2.1: Hazard Analysis*. Partner agencies that are listed as having responsibilities in the base plan and/or supportive volumes of the *CEMP* are expected to develop and maintain operating procedures and guides to implement actions assigned to them and for which their agencies are responsible for, including continuity of operations.

1.2 Methodology

PCEM coordinates with, guides, and promotes planning across agencies year-round. This includes but is not limited to elected officials, political subdivisions, County departments and agencies, special fire control districts, NGOs, and other whole community partners. A list of partner agencies can be found in *Table 1*.

The *CEMP* is one of several larger community plans. Integration and alignment with plans such as the *County Comprehensive Plan (COMP Plan)*, *Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP)*, *Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)*, and *Regional Resilience Action Plan* is key. PCEM has identified plans that fall under the umbrella of the *CEMP* to address preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. These plans are reviewed and updated on a scheduled basis, when significant changes are needed due to recent incidents, and upon changes in technology or partner coordination. This is discussed in greater detail in *Section 4: Preparedness*.

Local Planning Process

Local planning is achieved through a variety of methods and whole community partner meetings that occur year round. PCEM engages stakeholders in the community and attends or hosts stakeholder meetings to bring a whole community approach to disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. Plans and processes are developed through collaboration and verification of local response capabilities and needs.

Below is a list of some of the organizations utilized to build community engagement and advise emergency management planning:

- *Flood Risk and Mitigation Public Information Working Group* is a group of public and private stakeholders formed to supplement input into the multijurisdictional Program for Public Information and LMS plan³.
- *Florida Emergency Preparedness Association* is a statewide association of emergency managers and partners that through conferences and workgroup meetings collaborate, coordinate and guide emergency management practices. Working groups include but are not limited to mass care, WebEOC and County emergency management directors.
- *Human Services Coalition* is a network of social service agencies that meet to discuss current topics and increase collaboration and awareness.
- *Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group (LMSWG)* consists of representatives of the jurisdictions, private sector, and nonprofits as well as any members of the public to identify and prioritize mitigation projects across the community.
- *Municipal Emergency Management Organization (MEMO)* is an organization of emergency management designees from the County and municipalities that meet throughout the year to discuss concerns, updates, planned activities, and identify areas for improved coordination.
- *Pinellas Coalition for Health and Medical Preparedness (CHAMP)* is an association comprised of community agencies and organizations with disaster planning and operations responsibilities or capabilities in the health and medical discipline.
- *Pinellas County Enterprise Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Working Group* is comprised of key GIS stakeholders within Pinellas County that collaborate to provide recommendations to the Enterprise GIS Steering Committee. This provides a forum for County and local GIS professionals to network and share GIS knowledge and experiences.
- *Pinellas County Enterprise GIS Steering Committee* was established to process and assess information, develop a plan to provide GIS services at an enterprise level, and make recommendations to appropriate entities – Pinellas County constitutional officers, appointing authorities, and the BCC. This committee

³ 2020 LMS Executive Summary

functions as a policy-making committee to rank, screen, and eliminate different policy considerations.

- *Pinellas County Fire Chiefs Association (PCFCA)* is an association of municipal and special fire districts that provide emergency services to residents and visitors in Pinellas County.
- *Recover Tampa Bay Initiative* is a collaboration of Pinellas, Hillsborough and Pasco counties working with Recovery Pinellas to coordinate long-term recovery organizations to address unmet needs in the community after a disaster.
- *Region IV – Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)* is a body of county emergency managers that holds quarterly meetings to discuss coordination across FDEM Region IV, which includes Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Polk, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, and Hardee counties.
- *Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) – Tampa* is part of Florida’s domestic security structure. Each RDSTF is co-chaired by a local Sheriff or Police Chief and a Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Special Agent in Charge. Task force members include first responders from the disciplines of fire/rescue, emergency management, public health and hospitals, as well as law enforcement. The task forces also work in partnership with schools, businesses and private industries.
- *Regional Public Information Officer (PIO) Working Group* is a group of various cross-sectoral PIOs lead by Pinellas County Communications (PCC). This group meets to collaborate and share public information campaign efforts, and during an emergency serving as part of the Joint Information System (JIS).
- *Special Needs Task Force* is coordinated by PCEM with partners who support the special needs program through assistance with the registry, triage, evacuation, sheltering and other resources.
- *Homeless Disaster Response Task Force* is comprised of various County and partner agencies to coordinate support for homeless persons before, during, and after an emergency.
- *Shelter Task Force* is coordinated by PCEM, and comprised of various County, municipal, and partner agencies to update plans and support shelter operation decision making.
- *Community Feeding Working Group* is comprised of various County and partner agencies to support planning and coordinate operations for food and meal distribution programs.
- *Sustainability and Resiliency Leadership Committee and Action Team (LCAT)* is an organization sets the foundation and platform for sustainability and resiliency initiatives, planning, programs, policies and solutions for Pinellas County.

- *Tampa Bay Community Rating System Regional Work Group* is a forum for floodplain management professionals in the region to vet flood related issues, share lessons learned, identify best floodplain management practices and gain efficiencies in planning processes that result in flood hazard mitigation and realized cost savings.
- *Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger* is a tri-county coalition of corporations, non-profits, faith-based organizations, universities, foundations and individuals with a mission to end hunger by eliminating barriers, increasing access and knowledge and expanding the amount of nutritious food available.
- *Tampa Bay Regional Resiliency Coalition* is coordinated by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council of local county and municipal participants to address regional goals to address resiliency for climate change.
- *Tampa Bay Urban Area Working Group* works to coordinate, develop, and implement the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program initiatives to ensure that UASI resources are managed in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

PCEM hosts and participates in regularly occurring meetings as well as meetings to address special projects, events, and hurricane season updates. Information and invitations are shared via emails, shared calendars, newsletters, and announcements to encourage participation.

A diagram of supporting plans can be found as *Figure 1*. It is the responsibility of individual agencies to have plans that support the *CEMP*.

Plan Distribution and Maintenance

A formal review and adoption of the *CEMP* is conducted every four (4) years in accordance with State of Florida requirements. FSS and the Florida Administrative Code (FAC) require a quadrennial review by FDEM. Upon review and determination of compliance by FDEM, FAC requires the adoption of the *CEMP* by resolution of the BCC.

The *CEMP* is reviewed and revised on a regular basis to ensure compliance with current policies and procedures and to maintain preparedness. The PCEM Director is responsible for the development and maintenance of the *CEMP*, and ensuring that revisions to the plan are coordinated, published, and distributed.

A *CEMP* distribution list is maintained and updated by PCEM, including the designated emergency management contacts for partner agencies. A list of the agencies the *CEMP* is distributed to can be found in *Table 1*. The *CEMP* is provided electronically to these partners, as well as accessible through the PCEM SharePoint site.

Strategic Planning

Alignment of the *CEMP* with other strategic County plans is essential. These overarching plans guide development of the community which can impact the risk and vulnerability factors.

Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan (COMP Plan)

The *COMP Plan* touches on almost every facet of quality of life by addressing delivery of public services, land use and mobility, the environment and economy, and a myriad of other issues that matter to Pinellas County’s citizens, visitors and businesses. It defines our community’s vision and establishes the associated goals, objectives, and policies that direct the decision making process to help achieve that vision. The BCC approved the most recent major update to the *COMP Plan* in March 2008, and PCEM works with Pinellas County Housing and Community Development (PCHCD) during updates of the *COMP Plan*. The Comprehensive Plan is currently undergoing a major update, which will be adopted in 2022.

The *COMP Plan* is comprised of the following elements:

- Capital Improvements:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/CIE.htm>
- Coastal Management:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/CoastalMgmt.htm>
- Economic:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/Economic.htm>
- Future Land Use and Quality Communities:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/FutureLandUse.htm>
- Housing:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/Housing.htm>
- Intergovernmental Coordination:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/IntergovernmentalCoord.htm>
- Natural Resource Conservation and Management:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/NaturalResources.htm>
- Potable Water Supply, Wastewater and Reuse:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/WaterSupply.htm>
- Public School Facilities:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/PublicSchoolFacilities.htm>
- Recreation, Open Space & Culture:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/RecOpenSpace.htm>
- Solid Waste and Resource Recovery:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/SolidWaste.htm>
- Surface Water Management:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/SurfaceWaterMgmt.htm>
- Transportation:
 - <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/Transportation.htm>

Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)

The *LMS* integrates mitigation initiatives established through various policies, programs, and regulations into a single, stand-alone working document. The purpose of the *LMS* is to reduce death, injuries, and property losses caused by natural hazards through mitigation measures. The 2020 Plan identifies hazards based on the history of disasters

within the county and lists goals, objectives, strategies, and actions for reducing future losses. The plan is maintained by the LMSWG with representatives from all the municipalities, public and private agencies and nonprofit organizations. The LMSWG meets at least quarterly to address various functions of mitigation planning. The plan is updated annually and approved every five years.

Sustainability and Resiliency Action Plan

As Pinellas County looks to address the concerns of climate change and sea level rise, an action plan that will address measures that can be implemented to help make the community more resilient is being developed. This plan aligns with the *LMS*, and PCEM participates in the LCAT.

Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP)

The main intent of the *PDRP* is to guide the County and its municipalities' actions and decisions during the post disaster recovery and redevelopment stages, which often last years after a disaster. The *PDRP* addresses a variety of recovery and long-term redevelopment topics, such as business resumption and economic redevelopment, housing repair and reconstruction, infrastructure restoration and mitigation, environmental restoration, and other long-term recovery issues identified by the community. It also identifies preparations before a disaster strikes to speed up the recovery process.

Resiliency in Capital Planning Directive (Administrative Directive 2-12)

The purpose of this directive is to clarify expectations and guidelines as it relates to the County's Capital Improvement Program as part of the ongoing efforts to continuously improve County project planning and delivery and adopt a project portfolio management framework. The directive requires the assessment of sea-level rise and future conditions for capital improvement projects, watershed management plans, and infrastructure master plans.

Emergency Management Strategic Work Plan

The *Emergency Management Strategic Work Plan* was developed by PCEM to address overarching program development and coordination with stakeholders to address evolving issues. This plan is updated every year and incorporates an analysis of items completed over the last year, a look at performance metrics, review of the master *Improvement Plan (IP)* from exercises and real world incidents, and current and expected needs. This plan focuses on four (4) main goal areas:

- Engage and Empower Whole Community Partners
- Promote Resilient Communities
- Address at Risk Populations
- Ensure Operational Readiness

2 SITUATION

Pinellas County, on Florida’s West Coast, is a 280-square mile peninsula bordered by the Gulf of Mexico and Tampa Bay. The county from tip to tip is 38 miles long and 15 miles wide at its broadest point. When compared with Florida’s 67 other counties, this estimate shows Pinellas County to be the most densely populated county in the state. Pinellas’ location provides the area with an ideal year-round climate, making it a popular tourist destination. Retired residents, whether full time or seasonal make up about a quarter of our population and businesses catering to retirement living are important to Pinellas County’s economic health. Pinellas County’s top key business sectors are health, tourism, manufacturing, and financial services.

2.1 Hazard Analysis

Pinellas County is vulnerable to a variety of hazards throughout the year, whether natural, technological, or human-caused. A full Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) is available within the *LMS*⁴ and was structured to align with the *State of Florida Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan*⁵.

This section profiles the natural, human-caused, and technological hazards that could possibly affect Pinellas communities. Each natural hazard profile includes a discussion of the geographic areas affected, the historical occurrences in the county, an impact analysis, the probability, and the vulnerability and loss estimation by County critical facilities, and a discussion of overall vulnerability. Alternatively, the human-caused and technological hazards include similar topics of discussion, but not all aspects are able to be quantified. This is because of the limited data available and the imprecise nature of the human-caused and technological hazards.

The risk assessment identifies 22 hazards based on an examination of past disasters, probability of occurrence, possible impacts, and vulnerability. Each hazard was assigned a Priority Risk Index (PRI) score by the LMSWG to be able to categorize the hazards. The overall hazard list with the determined PRI score can be found in *Table 2*. The hazards include:

- Agricultural Disruption
- Biological Incident
- Civil Disturbance Incident
- Cyber Incident
- Drought
- Erosion
- Extreme Heat
- Flood
- Geological
- Hazardous Materials Incident
- Mass Migration Incident
- Radiological Incident
- Red Tide
- Seismic
- Severe Storms
- Space Weather Incident

⁴ <http://www.pinellaslms.org/>

⁵ <https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/mitigation/statemitigationstrategy/state-hazard-mitigation-plan/>

- Terrorism
- Transportation Incident
- Tropical cyclones
- Tsunami
- Wildfire
- Winter Storm

Agricultural Disruption – Exotic Pests and Diseases

Florida and Pinellas County’s subtropical climate provides a conducive environment for a variety of agricultural commodities year round. However, this climate, coupled with robust international tourist/business sectors, provides for a substantial vulnerability to exotic diseases and pests that could disrupt Florida agriculture. A statewide map can be found in *Figure 2*.

Agricultural disease can spread and create an outbreak, killing numbers of plants and animals. Pests can range from birds, rodents, or insects, such as beetles, caterpillars, and can ruin a crop harvest and severely impact the economic community. Additionally, invasive species of plants and animals can harm the agricultural community by quickly spreading and negatively impacting native organisms.

Due to the nature and unpredictability of agricultural disruptions, all property and infrastructure within the agricultural industry in the State of Florida is at risk to an agricultural incident. As such, Pinellas County has a high vulnerability to agricultural disruption.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-356⁶)*.

Biological Incidents (Disease Outbreaks, Epidemics, and Pandemics)

A biological incident can refer to a number of different incidents involving biological agents, such as bacteria, viruses, or toxins. All of these types of biological agents can be deadly to humans and animals.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)⁷, an epidemic refers to an increase (often sudden) in the number of cases of a disease above what is normally expected for an area. Outbreak carries the same definition of an epidemic, but is typically used for a more defined geographic area. Pandemic refers to an epidemic that has spread over several countries or continents, usually affecting a large number of people.

Recent incidents of disease outbreaks in Florida include the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic in 2020, the Hepatitis A outbreak in 2018, and the Zika virus outbreak in 2016. While the overall probability of a disease outbreak that affects the large Pinellas population is low, each specific disease has its own set of risk factors and probabilities that influence the overall risk of an outbreak.

⁶ The *LMS* page numbers are reflected as a Section#-Page# (i.e. 4-356 refers to Section 4 Page 356).

⁷ CDC, 2012: <https://www.cdc.gov/csels/dsepd/ss1978/lesson1/section11.html>

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to biological incidents, such as disease outbreaks, epidemics, and pandemics. Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-370)*.

Civil Disturbance

A civil disturbance, sometimes referred to as civil unrest, is an activity such as a demonstration, riot, or strike that disrupts a community and requires invention to maintain public safety, as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)⁸. Although many protests are peaceful and consist of law-abiding citizens who intend their protests to be non-violent, these situations can become highly emotional and tense, potentially escalating a peaceful gathering into one of conflict or violence. A historical map of incidents can be found in *Figure 4*.

Pinellas County has a high vulnerability to civil disturbance incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-388)*.

Coastal Erosion

With many miles of coastline, Pinellas County regularly experiences coastal erosion. Coastal erosion is the wearing-away of land or the removal of beach/dune sediments by wave action, tidal currents, wave currents, or drainage. Waves generated by storms cause coastal erosion, which may take the form of long-term losses of sediment or the temporary redistribution of coastal sediments. Major coastal erosion incidents are often a byproduct of tropical cyclones or other strong storms impacting the coastline.

Almost the entire length of Pinellas County on the Gulf Coast is lined with fine, white sandy beaches. These beaches are a main tourism attraction, and are highly vulnerable to erosion from coastal incidents as well as inland coastal exposures along the county coastline. These coastal erosion incidents typically have caused considerable loss of the beachfront and widespread damage to structures that line those beaches. A map of coastal erosion incidents found in *Figure 4*. Major coastal erosion incidents in Pinellas County include Hurricane Hermine in 2016, and Tropical Storm Debby in 2012.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to coastal erosion incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-195)*.

⁸ FEMA, 2020: <https://training.fema.gov/programs/emischool/el361toolkit/glossary.htm#C>

Cyber Incident

The word cyber refers to anything that contains, is connected to, or is controlled by computers and computer networks. Cyber-technology refers to the computers and computer networks and the information and services the community relies upon. For example, Critical Infrastructure and Key Resource (CIKR) sectors often rely on computers and the internet. A cyber incident refers to an incident involving computers, networks, and information or services that affect daily operations of CIKR. Even if a particular CIKR sector is not dependent on cyber technology, any impacted CIKR sector could have a ripple effect of consequences on other sectors.

Some cyber incidents are cyberattacks, meaning they have a malicious intent with the intent of taking proprietary, personal, and/or financial information. The most significant risk for exposure to attack stems from human error, as any computer system that is accessible from the internet is a potential target. Cyber warfare or cyber espionage executed by other nations is also a potential risk.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to cyber incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-307)*.

Critical Infrastructure Disruptions

A critical infrastructure disruption, such as an electrical power interruption, gas line break, or damage to water and waste water utilities, may be caused by virtually any natural, technological, or human-caused disaster. Maps of critical infrastructure facilities in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 6, Figure 7, Figure 8, and Figure 9*.

Additional information about potential impacts can be found in the various hazard descriptions and in the *LMS*.

Drought

Drought is a period of unusually persistent dry weather that lasts long enough to cause serious problems, such as water shortages. Although droughts are a normal and recurring part of any climate, they can cause negative impacts to persons, animals, and vegetation.

Although droughts are unlikely to cause direct damage to structures and property, droughts can increase the probabilities of fires and/or water shortages. As Pinellas County continues to develop with higher populations and higher water demands, these drought conditions and drier trends may impact the county. A map of drought risk in the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 10*.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to drought.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-219)*.

Extreme Heat

Extreme heat is an extended period where temperature and relative humidity combine to create a dangerous heat index, increasing the likelihood of heat-related illnesses. Due to the subtropical climate, proximity to large bodies of water, and urban development, the entire State of Florida is vulnerable to periods of extreme heat. Extreme heat incidents are most likely to occur during the summer months, roughly from June to September.

Extreme heat usually does not cause significant damage to the structures or property, rather it is more likely to cause adverse effects to persons and living organisms. A map of extreme heat risk in the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 11*.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to extreme heat incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-209)*.

Flooding

A flood or flooding refers to the general or temporary conditions of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland or tidal water and of surface water runoff from any source. Flooding can occur from excessive rainfall due to tropical cyclones, seasonal rain, or other weather patterns and conditions.

Pinellas County is highly vulnerable to flooding as a hazard, including inland flooding (riverine reach, flash floods, and dam/dike failures) and coastal flooding (including tidal flooding and storm surge). Ensuring residents are aware of flood risks is an essential element of our education and outreach materials. The *Flood Warning and Response Plan* can be found in *CEMP Volume II – Hazard Specific Plans*. This plan emphasizes timely identification of impending flood threats, disseminate warnings to appropriate floodplain occupants, and coordinates flood response activities to reduce the threat to life and property.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-29)*.

Coastal Flooding

Coastal flooding is usually the result of a severe weather system such as a severe thunderstorm, hurricane, or tropical storm with high winds. The damaging effects to structures in beach areas are caused by a combination of higher levels of storm surge, winds, waves, rain, erosion, and battering by debris.

Tidal flooding, a type of coastal flooding, is a result of long-period waves that roll around the Earth as the ocean is influenced by the gravitational pull of the moon and the sun as these bodies interact with the planet in their monthly and yearly orbits. These exceptionally high tides (colloquially known as king tides) can exacerbate the effects of other types of flooding, such as storm surge or flooding from heavy rainfall.

A map of Pinellas County’s evacuation zones can be found as *Figure 12*. Maps of potential storm surge inundation based on severity can be found as *Figure 13*, *Figure 14*, and *Figure 15*.

Storm surge, coastal flooding caused by tropical cyclones, is discussed more in depth in the *LMS Tropical Cyclone Hazard (2020, Page 4-76)*.

Inland Flooding

Pinellas County’s low-lying topography combined with the coastal subtropical climate makes it highly vulnerable to flash flooding or riverine flooding. Flash flooding occurs rapidly, developing within minutes to hours after excessive rainfall from slow moving thunderstorms, thunderstorms repeatedly moving over the same area, or heavy rains from tropical cyclones. Riverine flooding occurs when the flow of runoff is greater than the carrying capacities of the natural drainage systems.

A map of flash flood risks in the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 16*. A map of flood zones in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 17*, and maps of repetitive loss areas due to flood as *Figure 18* and *Figure 19*.

Additional information on inland flooding can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-29)*.

Sea Level Rise

Pinellas County is vulnerable to sea level rise given its extensive shoreline and low elevation. When sea levels rise, a number of consequences including the salinization of fresh water sources, land loss, and increases in flooding could be observed. Sea level rise is a significant concern as it could affect coastal structures and infrastructure, and could impact the economy and environment.

Maps of potential sea level rise based on severity can be found *Figure 20*, *Figure 21*, *Figure 22*, and *Figure 23*.

Geological Incidents

Geological incidents, predominately sinkholes, have been a common occurrence across Florida and Pinellas County. While landslides are also classified as geological incidents, they are not considered to be a significant hazard due to Pinellas County’s flat topography.

Sinkholes are caused by a collapse of near-surface terrain due to the formation of cavities or fissures. Sinkholes can form unpredictably, forming in minutes or over the course of years. Extended periods of drought and/or inland flooding cause trigger increased occurrences of sinkholes due to the subsurface changes and overburdening of sediments.

Due to the significant limestone composition of the substrate in the central and northern part of the county, sinkholes are more likely to develop in these areas compared to the southern portion of the county.

Although most sinkholes are relatively shallow and small in diameter, substantial sinkholes with depths in excess of five (5) feet and diameters in excess of ten (10) feet

are possible. Most sinkholes that cause property damage only cause relatively minor impacts, generally to roadways or seawalls. The largest sinkhole recorded in Pinellas County occurred in Dunedin, with a depth of 55 feet and diameter of 70 feet, causing severe damage to several residential structures⁹.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to geological incidents. A map of geological incidents that have occurred in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 24*. Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-232)*.

Hazardous Materials Incidents

A hazardous material is any substance that poses a threat to humans, animals, or the environment – typically categorized as a biological, chemical, or radiological hazard. Hazardous materials can produce an array of effects to humans, animals, and the environment with both short term and long term impacts. Hazardous materials are regulated within the United States by a variety of agencies at the federal, state, and local level.

A hazardous materials incident can occur practically anywhere within Pinellas County, as these incidents can occur anywhere during the production, transportation, storage, and/or use of hazardous materials. Depending on the hazardous material and the conditions present, harmful effects may be isolated to the immediate vicinity or may cause impacts for many miles.

With 540 hazardous material facilities located within the county, numerous transportation thoroughfares, and being adjacent to Tampa Bay, the Port of Tampa, and the Gulf of Mexico, there is the potential for both fixed and transportation related hazardous material incidents. A map of hazardous material facilities in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 8*, and hazardous material transportation routes in the county as *Figure 25*.

Pinellas County is highly vulnerable to hazardous material incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-314)*.

Coastal Oil Spill

An oil spill is the release of crude oil, or liquid petroleum, into the environment. This is usually associated with marine spills, but may also occur on land. Oil spills are caused by the release of oil from offshore platforms, drilling rigs, tankers, ships that have sunk, or any vehicle used to transport crude oil over water or land. These spills have far reaching effects including continued damage to the environment and a financial loss to communities affected. A map of active oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico can be found as *Figure 26*.

⁹ Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Subsidence Incident Report 15-271.

The last major hazardous materials incident for Pinellas County was in 1993, when multiple ships collided, causing a 330,000 gallon oil spill at the entrance to Tampa Bay. Given Pinellas County's coastal location on the Gulf of Mexico and dependence on tourism and the related sales tax revenue, Pinellas County is highly vulnerable to a coastal oil spill. An oil spill, which is classified as a type of hazardous material incident, could affect any of Pinellas County's many natural resources, which could be catastrophic.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-318)*.

Major Transportation Incidents

Transportation systems are designed to move people, goods, and services efficiently, economically, and safely from one point to another. As the movement of people, goods, and services increases due to population growth and technological innovation, the need to plan for major transportation incidents becomes increasingly important.

Florida, including Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay area, has a large and diverse transportation network including airports, highways, railroads, marine ports, and pipelines. All of these public and privately owned CIKR are vitally important to virtually all sectors, both during normal operations and during an emergency.

Major transportation incidents may be caused or compounded by an array natural and man-made incidents. There is no sure way to predict future transportation incidents as most typically occur without warning. The most notable major transportation incident in Pinellas County was on May 9, 1980, when severe weather caused a ship to collide with a support column of the southern Sunshine Skyway Bridge span, causing it to collapse.

The probability of a major transportation incident in the county is perceived to be high. As such, Pinellas County is highly vulnerable to a major transportation incident. A map of fog risk in the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 27*. Maps of transportation methods can be found as *Figure 28 (waterways)*, *Figure 29 (roadways)*, and *Figure 30 (railways)*.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-288)*.

Mass Migration

According to United States Code (USC) (*Title 8, Chapter 12, Subchapter II*) the definition of mass migration is a migration of non-citizens that is of such magnitude and duration that it poses a threat to the national security of the United States as determined by the President. This usually refers to an incident, or series of incidents, that may take place over the course of several years or even decades. The incident could be economic, social, or political in nature, but it is something that causes a mass exodus from the country of origin. Any mass migration or influx of people to a localized area can potentially

overwhelm the local economy and infrastructure, especially considering Pinellas County's already dense population.

The largest mass migration incident was in 1980, with over 100,000 people arriving in South Florida over the span of several months. While the State of Florida has a high vulnerability to mass migration incidents, South Florida is at higher risk due to their close proximity and network to foreign countries compared to the central and northern portions of the state. Pinellas County has a low vulnerability to a mass migration incident.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-381)*.

Radiological Incident

Radiation is produced by radioactive materials as a form of energy. While there are many natural and helpful forms of radiation, radiation can also be harmful if not utilized properly.

There are many types of emergencies that may involve radiation or radioactive materials. According to the CDC¹⁰, the incidents involving radiation that are most likely to occur are a release from a radiological dispersal device, a radiological exposure device, a nuclear power plant accident, a transportation accident, or an occupational accident.

While it is unlikely that a radiological incident will occur in Pinellas County, the consequences could be devastating. Radiological incidents can range from a minor emergency with no offsite effects to a major emergency that may result in an offsite release of radioactive materials. The probability of a radiological incident is impossible to predict with certainty. Even threats that can be anticipated would require a large and concentrated effort to mitigate the potential damage.

Pinellas County has a low vulnerability to radiological incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-336)*.

Commercial Nuclear Power Plant Incidents

There are no nuclear power plants in Pinellas County, and the county lies outside any nuclear power plant's 50-mile radius. The nearest nuclear power plant was the Crystal River Nuclear Power Plant in Citrus County, and this site has been closed. Therefore, Pinellas County has a very low vulnerability to a commercial nuclear power plant incident.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-339)*.

¹⁰ CDC, 2018: <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation/emergencies/typesofemergencies.htm>

Red Tide

Red tide is a colloquial term used to describe a variety of harmful algal blooms (HABs), negatively affecting natural resources, economies, and health. HABs can be either toxic or non-toxic, and may or may not discolor the water. As HABs decay, they can release unpleasant odors causing respiratory irritation in people or other effects at levels high exposure. For animals, HABs can produce toxins that can kill marine animals and make land animals ill.

According to the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), HABs are temporary and usually occur in late summer or early fall, lasting anywhere from three (3) to five (5) months over small or widespread areas¹¹. A map of historical red tide incidents offshore the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 31*. The most recent significant HAB impacting Pinellas County was the 2017 – 2018 incident, resulting in over 700 tons of dead marine organisms being collected and millions of dollars in business/economic losses.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to Red Tide incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-276)*.

Seismic

Seismic incidents, also referred to as earthquakes, are the sudden and rapid shaking of dates in general the earth resulting in seismic waves. These incidents can cause severe damage directly and trigger tsunamis, or indirectly cause flash flooding or fires. Seismic incidents are rare in Florida and no earthquake epicenters have been documented within the state¹². A map of historical seismic incidents nearest to Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 32*.

Pinellas County has a very low vulnerability to seismic incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-260)*.

Severe Storms

Thunderstorms are common across the State of Florida and Pinellas County, presenting a risk of impacts from lightning, flash flooding, hail, straight-line winds, and/or tornadoes.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), a thunderstorm is considered severe if it produces hail of at least one (1) inch in diameter, and/or wind gusts in excess of 58

¹¹ FDOH, 2021: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/aquatic-toxins/harmful-algae-blooms/index.html>

¹² As of this plan's revised date.

miles per hour (MPH), and/or a tornado. Lightning and heavy rainfall is not a factor in classifying a thunderstorm as severe¹³.

As the number of structures and the population increases, the probability that a severe storm or tornado will cause property damage or human casualties also increases. Pinellas County has a high vulnerability to severe storms. A map of lightning risks in the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 33*. Historic incidents across Pinellas County for hail can be found as *Figure 34*, high wind as *Figure 35*, and tornadoes as *Figure 36*.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-118)*.

Space Weather Incidents

Space weather is a generic term describing a variety of incidents, including coronal mass ejections (CMEs) and solar flares, which can cause adverse impacts to Earth. There are generally three major categories of space weather incidents caused by CMEs and solar flares – geomagnetic storms, solar radiation storms, and radio blackouts.

These incidents can cause significant impacts to technological systems, such as loss of radio communications, navigation system disruption, damage to satellite systems, or in the most extreme cases, failure of critical infrastructure systems such as electric power grids. A map of regions susceptible from a significant space weather incident scenario can be found in *Figure 37*.

Pinellas County is highly vulnerable to space weather incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-323)*.

Terrorism

The population, property, and environmental resources of the State of Florida are vulnerable to a threatened or actual terrorist attack. Although Pinellas County does not have a history of terrorist incidents, there is the potential for terrorist incidents to occur anywhere within the United States. Terrorism is defined in the United States Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) (*28 CFR Section 0.85*) as *the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives*. It is the use of force or violence against persons or property in violation of the criminal laws of the United States for purposes of intimidation, coercion, or ransom.

The effects of terrorism can vary significantly from loss of life and injuries to property damage and disruptions in services such as electricity, water supply, public

¹³ NWS, 2020: <https://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/>

transportation, and communications. Terrorists may target any variety of locations or systems, with CIKR sectors and areas with large populations most at risk.

Pinellas County has a high vulnerability to terrorism incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-343)*.

Special Events

Pinellas County regularly hosts large events and supports security initiatives for major events in the Tampa Bay region. Additionally, Pinellas County is home to many tourist attractions. While these events themselves pose no threat, large gatherings and crowded areas can increase the risk of a community being overwhelmed by an incident and creating a high-profile target for terrorist activity.

Law enforcement agencies, fire districts, and/or other agencies create Incident Action Plans (IAPs) to plan for and structure special event emergency response. Special event IAPs are shared with PCEM, Pinellas County Safety and Emergency Services (PCSES), and partner agencies as appropriate. Additional information about potential impacts can be found in the various hazard descriptions and in the *LMS*.

Tropical and Subtropical Cyclones

Tropical cyclones are classified as Tropical Depressions, Tropical Storms, or Hurricanes by the National Hurricane Center (NHC). Once a tropical cyclone becomes a hurricane, the storm is categorized as a Category 1 – 5 utilizing the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale (SSHWS)¹⁴. It is important to emphasize that a storm's SSHWS classification (i.e. a Category 5 hurricane) is based solely upon a hurricane's maximum sustained wind speed, and the scale does not take into account other hazards such as a storm surge, rainfall flooding, or tornadoes. Subtropical cyclones are classified as either Subtropical Depressions or Subtropical Storms. Although tropical and subtropical cyclones can form any time of year, they most frequently form during hurricane season which runs from June 1 to November 30. The NHC issues routine tropical weather products from May 15 – November 30, with special products being issued as needed outside of this time period.

Tropical and subtropical cyclones present a multitude of hazards, including high winds, tornadoes, flooding heavy rainfall, storm surge, and hazardous surf. These hazards may extend far from the cyclone's center, further exacerbating the potential for significant impacts. Florida's location between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean results in the state having a high frequency of tropical cyclone impacts.

Storm surge, an abnormal rise of water cause by a storm, is often the greatest threat to life and property, accounting for nearly half of the fatalities in the United States caused

¹⁴ Additional information about the SSHWS can be found here: <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php>

by a tropical or subtropical cyclone¹⁵. It is important to note that while intensity is a factor in determining storm surge height, it is not the only one. Many other factors, such as the storm's forward speed, size, angle of approach relative to the coast, and an area's coastal characteristics all contribute to a storm's storm surge height and impact. Some of the highest and/or most impactful storm surge values measured in the United States haven't been from Category 5 hurricanes, but from lower categories¹⁶:

- Hurricane Katrina, 2005: 28 feet, Category 3 Hurricane
- Hurricane Ike, 2008: 20 feet, Category 2 Hurricane
- Hurricane Ivan, 2004: 15 feet, Category 3 Hurricane
- Hurricane Sandy, 2012: 12 feet, Category 1 Hurricane
- Hurricane Hermine, 2016: 7.5 feet, Category 1 Hurricane

Rainfall flooding from tropical cyclones is another major threat to life and property, with inland flooding from rainfall causing the majority of tropical cyclone fatalities in the past few years¹⁷. Tropical and subtropical cyclones that stall or move slowly across an area can produce tremendous amounts of rainfall and cause catastrophic damage. Some of the most extreme amounts recorded in the United States from a single storm are below¹⁸:

- Hurricane Harvey, 2017: 60.58 inches
- Tropical Storm Imelda, 2019: 44.29 inches
- Tropical Storm Allison, 2001: 40.68 inches
- Hurricane Florence, 2018: 35.93 inches
- Hurricane Hermine, 2016: 22.36 inches

Pinellas County is highly vulnerable to impacts from tropical cyclones and subtropical cyclones. A map of historical tropical cyclone tracks near Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 38*. Pinellas County's evacuation zones and routes can be found as *Figure 12*, with potential storm surge inundation maps found as *Figure 13*, *Figure 14*, and *Figure 15*.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-76)*.

Tsunami

Tsunamis are a large, powerful series of waves caused by the displacement of water typically associated with earthquakes, landslides, or volcanic eruptions. Tsunamis arrive on land with enormous force and recede with nearly equal force. They can have devastating impacts, severely damaging or destroying communities similar to a

¹⁵ NHC, 2014. Storm Surge contributed to 49% of United States tropical cyclone fatalities from 1963 – 2012. https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/outreach/presentations/FLGHC_2019_Keynote.pdf

¹⁶ NHC, 2021. Amounts retrieved from individual Tropical Cyclone Reports (TCRs).

¹⁷ NHC, 2019. Most fatalities caused by tropical cyclones from 2016 – 2018 were attributed to inland flooding. https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/outreach/presentations/FLGHC_2019_Keynote.pdf

¹⁸ NHC, 2021. Amounts retrieved from individual TCRs.

catastrophic storm surge produced by a hurricane. Tsunamis are most common in the Pacific Ocean, with the most at risk communities in the United States being on the country's west coast. Even if a tsunami were to occur in the Atlantic Ocean or Caribbean Sea, impacts to the west coast of Florida where Pinellas County is located would be unlikely. Pinellas County could experience a tsunami due to a geological incident or a large meteorite landing in the Gulf of Mexico, though the probability of either occurring are low.

Pinellas County has a low vulnerability to a tsunamis.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-270)*.

Wildfire

A wildfire can be started by lightning or by humans in an area with vegetation. Wildfires occur in Florida annually at all times of the year and are part of the natural cycle of Florida's fire-adapted ecosystems. Wildfires can cause major environmental, social, and economic damages because of the possible loss of life, property, and wildlife habitats. Droughts may increase an areas' vulnerability to wildfires.

As most of Pinellas County is urbanized there are few areas with large amounts of vegetative fuels to support a catastrophic incident. The only large exposure occurs in the northwestern portion of the county in a managed open-space area. Maps of burn probabilities in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 39*, wildfire ignition density as *Figure 40*, and wildfire urban interface risk as *Figure 41*.

Pinellas County is moderately vulnerable to wildfires.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS (2020, Page 4-172)*.

Winter Weather

Winter weather can include extreme cold, freezes, snowfall, and ice and affects most areas of the continental United States. In areas such as Florida and Pinellas County, where winter weather is more uncommon, even small accumulations of ice or snow can cause significant impacts.

Winter storms and freeze usually do not cause direct damage to structures, with impacts to agriculture and livestock much more likely. However, as Pinellas County is largely urbanized, largescale damages due to a winter storm or freeze is unlikely. Maps of winter weather risk across the State of Florida can be found as *Figure 42*, and extreme cold weather risk as *Figure 43*.

Pinellas County has a low vulnerability to severe winter weather incidents.

Additional information about this hazard, including the probability and severity of occurrence, vulnerable populations, and damage information can be found in the *LMS*.

2.2 Geographic Information

Pinellas County¹⁹ is a peninsula on the west coast of the Florida peninsula, presenting a unique geographic situation. Pinellas County is adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico to the west, with Tampa Bay to the east. With a land area of 273 square miles and a water area of 334 square miles, Pinellas County covers a large area of both land and water.

Land Use Patterns

The diverse mix of cities, small towns, and suburban communities in Pinellas County provides residents with a choice of housing and lifestyles²⁰. Retaining and enhancing these distinctive neighborhood and community characteristics will help ensure that they remain vital and successful. Land use in Pinellas County is the result of varied but interacting forces (economic, regulatory, environmental, geography, social, cultural) whose direction and influence can change over time. The urban landscape is one of extensive single-family neighborhoods, localized town home development and higher density apartment and condominium complexes, office and industrial parks, strip commercial development along the highways, intensive development on most of the barrier islands, two urban centers, and several smaller town centers. A map of land use in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 44*, and a map of use by building development year can be found as *Figure 45*.

Topography

The elevation of Pinellas County ranges from Mean Sea Level to 110 feet. Most of Pinellas County is relatively flat.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources manages the county's environmentally sensitive lands using sound resource management practices that promote the quality of ecosystems native to the county. Management practices focus on maintaining or enhancing the natural biological diversity. Some of the more significant sensitive areas include:

- Brooker Creek Preserve
- Shell Key
- Weedon Island Preserve

Additional information on the county's environmentally sensitive and managed areas, including detailed maps of each area, can be found on Pinellas County's website: <https://www.pinellascounty.org/park/managedlands/>.

¹⁹ As defined by FSS §7.52.

²⁰ Pinellas County COMP Plan: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/plan/FutureLandUse.htm>

Rivers, Creeks, Lakes, and Drainage Patterns

Pinellas County has a single river, the Anclote River, located in the northern part of the county. The river originates in Pasco County and flows southwestward through Pinellas County, with the mouth of the river at St. Joseph Sound along the Pasco/Pinellas border.

Pinellas County has numerous creeks and drainage channels located throughout the county. Some of the more notable creeks and drainage channels are:

- Allen’s Creek
- Bishop Creek
- Mullet Creek
- Brooker Creek
- Cross Bayou
- Curlew Creek
- Smith Bayou
- Joe’s Creek
- Klosterman Bayou
- McKay Creek
- Roosevelt Creek

Pinellas County also has multiple lakes, including the following²¹:

- Lake Tarpon
- Lake Seminole
- Lake St. George
- Lake Chautauqua
- Lake Salt
- Lake Leisure
- Lake Taylor
- Lake Walsingham
- Lake Avoca

Natural Areas and Open Spaces

Pinellas County has nearly 20,000 square acres of open space, with over 8,000 acres maintained within Brooker Creek preserve in northern portion of the county. Shell Key Preserve (2,181 acres) and Weedon Island Preserve (3,678 acres) also make up a significant amount of the county’s open space²².

Islands

Pinellas County has several islands extending along the western coastline of the County. Except for Anclote Key, the islands connect to the mainland by a series of 14 causeways and bridges. The most notable islands are:

- Anclote Key
- Caladesi Island
- Clearwater Beach
- Egmont Key
- Honeymoon Island
- Howard Park
- Long Key
- Mullet Key
- Sand Key
- Shell Key
- Three Rooker Bar
- Treasure Island

²¹ As defined in *Chapter 58, Article XV, Division 1, Section 58-501 Pinellas County Code (PCC)*

²² Pinellas County COMP Plan: https://www.pinellascounty.org/Plan/comp_plan/8rec/ch5.pdf

2.3 Demographics

Pinellas County has the sixth largest population in Florida, with an estimated 978,045 permanent residents²³.

Farm Worker Populations

Pinellas County, as a largely urban county, does not have a large farm worker population with only 89 farm workers employed within the county as of 2017²⁴.

Inmate Populations

The only inmate populations within Pinellas County are housed at the Pinellas County Jail, which is the only jail in Pinellas County and serves all law enforcement agencies. The jail complex houses an average daily population of approximately 3,000 inmates, including pre-trial and sentenced offenders²⁵.

Mobile Home Park Populations

Pinellas County has a large population of residents living in over 250 mobile home parks, with an estimated 85,000 mobile homes located within the county²⁶. A map of mobile home park density in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 47*.

Non-English Speaking Populations

Approximately 14.4% of residents in Pinellas County speak a language other than English at home²⁷. The largest non-English language spoken is Spanish, representing about 6.9% of the county's total population. Other Indo-European languages comprises about 4.9% of the county's total population, followed by 2.1% of the county's population speaking Asian and Pacific Island languages. Other languages comprise of the remaining 0.5% of the county's population. Approximately 4.9% of residents are estimated to have hearing loss or be hard of hearing. A map of language density in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 48*.

Population Density and Distribution

There are 3,347 people per square mile in Pinellas County, making the county very densely populated²⁸. The population is distributed throughout the county, with the northern part of the county being slightly less densely populated²⁹. A map of Pinellas County's population density can be found as *Figure 49*.

²³ 2010 United States Census Bureau <http://edr.state.fl.us/Content/area-profiles/county/pinellas.pdf>

²⁴ United States Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Statistics Service (2017)

²⁵ Pinellas County Sheriff's Office – <https://pcsoweb.com/location-and-general-information>

²⁶ *LMS (2020)*, Page 4-11

²⁷ United States Census Bureau American Community Survey (2019)

²⁸ <http://www.pinellascounty.org/facts.htm>

²⁹ <https://www.pced.org/page/censusmaps>

Population Distribution of Age

Pinellas County has a diverse age distribution, with the largest age group consisting of adults from 45 – 64 years of age (YOA), representing approximately 31% of the county’s population. 25 – 44 YOA make up the next largest age group, followed closely by 65+ and 5-24. 0-4 makes up the smallest age group³⁰. Maps of population distribution by age in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 50* (less than 18 YOA) and *Figure 51* (greater than 65 YOA).

Special Needs Populations

Pinellas County has an estimated population of 94,574 persons with a disability including those with hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and/or independent living disabilities³¹. A map social vulnerability focusing on special needs populations in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 52*. Approximately 5,000 residents are registered for special needs evacuation assistance through the Special Needs Evacuation Assistance Program³². Additional information about the program can be found in *Section 4.9: Special Needs Evacuation Assistance Program*.

Tourist Populations

Pinellas County is a major tourist hub, with a large tourist population in county at any given time. Tourist populations are dispersed through the central and southern portions of the county, with the beaches and barrier islands drawing the most significant populations to them. In 2019, the county saw over 15,000,000 visitors who generated over 6,870,000 hotel room night stays³³.

Transient Populations

Approximately 11,103 persons in Pinellas County are estimated to be within the homeless or transient populations³⁴. A map of housing and transient vulnerability in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 53*.

2.4 Economic Profile

Pinellas County lies at the center of the robust Tampa Bay market, consisting of many different economic sectors of varying backgrounds.

³⁰ <https://www.pinellascounty.org/Plan/demographics/PopulationByAgeGroupsPinellas.pdf>

³¹ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/pinellascountyflorida,FL/PST045219>

³² Data obtained from PCEM, valid as of May 2021.

³³ Visitor Profile Report (2019): <https://partners.visitstpeteclearwater.com/reporting/visitor-profile-study>

³⁴ Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Alliance Sheltered Homeless Persons in Pinellas Report (2017)

Employment by Major Sectors

Pinellas County has a variety of employment sectors, with the private sector making up most employment opportunities in the county. Private sector employers with a significant portion of jobs are as follows³⁵:

- Construction – 25,786
- Education and Health Services – 77,050
- Financial Activities – 32,940
- Information – 6,813
- Leisure and Hospitality – 60,190
- Manufacturing – 33,384
- Professional and Business Services – 74,140
- Trade, Transportation, and Utilities – 74,059

Income Per Capita

Pinellas County's per capita income is \$34,978 in 2020.

Property Values

The average occupied residential property value in Pinellas County is \$290,849 in 2020³⁶.

2.5 Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

Every community must prepare for and respond to disasters, and the degree to which a community exhibits certain social conditions, including high poverty, low percentage of vehicle access, or crowded households, may affect that community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in the face of disaster. According to the CDC³⁷, these factors describe a community's social vulnerability. The SVI uses 15 United States Census variables to help local officials identify communities that may need support in preparing for hazards or recovering from a disaster. Reducing social vulnerability can decrease both human suffering and economic loss. A map of overall SVI in Pinellas County can be found as *Figure 46*.

3 CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Pinellas County's year round operations integrate the four phases of emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. This section identifies the organizational structure and how the County implements these phases to reduce the loss of life, protect property and provide and re-establish community services for disasters impacting the county.

³⁵ United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (2020)

³⁶ ESRI Community Analyst (2020)

³⁷ CDC (2021): <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html>

3.1 County and Municipal Organization Structures

County Organization Structure

The BCC is the legislative and governing body of Pinellas County. The seven (7) member commission is responsible for establishing policies to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of Pinellas County residents. Five (5) of the Commissioners are elected to serve an individual district, and two (2) serve at-large, or countywide. They serve four (4) year terms, and each member must reside in their geographic district.

Each year, BCC members select a chairperson to preside over the BCC meetings and to serve as the elected head of the County. A vice chairperson is also selected to assume these duties in the absence of the chairperson. The BCC appoints a County Administrator, who implements and administers the policies established by the Board. The County Administrator supervises the day-to-day operation of the departments under the BCC. In the absence of the County Administrator, the Deputy County Administrator and Chief of Staff, or an Assistant County Administrator are authorized to take action as an official authority.

Pinellas County maintains a normal day-to-day management structure for its operations under the BCC. In addition to the BCC, the County consists of five (5) Constitutional Officers, who maintain their own management structures and operations, as follows:

- Clerk of the Circuit Court
- Property Appraiser
- Sheriff
- Supervisor of Elections
- Tax Collector

Some Pinellas County functions are managed by specialized boards, creating additional Appointing Authorities under the Unified Personnel System³⁸, including:

- Business Technology Services (PCBTS), managed by the PCBTS Board
- County Attorney's Office, managed by the County Attorney Oversight Committee
- Forward Pinellas, managed by the Forward Pinellas Board
- Human Resources Department, managed by the Personnel Board
- Office of Human Rights, managed by the Human Rights Board

Furthermore, Pinellas County is served by the following elected and/or appointed officials in the Sixth (6th) Judicial Circuit or District Six (6) Medical Examiner of the State of Florida:

- Circuit Court Judges
- County Court Judges
- Medical Examiner
- Public Defender
- State Attorney

³⁸ Created pursuant to Florida Law 77-642, amended by Florida Law 95-474.

Pinellas County's Government Organization Chart can be found as *Figure 54*.

Additional governmental bodies in the County, such as the Pinellas County School Board (PCSB) and the Pinellas County Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) Board, are external to Pinellas County Government's structure.

Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM)

Pinellas County maintains an Emergency Management Department under the BCC, consisting of a Director as required by §252.38(1)(b) FSS and supporting staff to coordinate emergency management functions. The County Administrator appoints the PCEM Director. The PCEM Director has direct responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the County emergency management agency.

The PCEM Director coordinates emergency management activities, services, and programs within the county and shall serve as liaison to FDEM and other local emergency management agencies and organizations.

The positions within PCEM are structured so they can easily transition from day to day activities to response. In addition, PCEM maintains a Duty Officer (DO) program to support preparedness and response, and further information on the DO program can be found in *Section 5: Duty Officer (DO) Program*. PCEM is responsible for the maintenance of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to ensure it is operational at all times.

The PCEM organization structure can be found as *Figure 55*.

Municipal Governments

Pinellas County coordinates year round with the 24 municipalities. All are governed by elected officials and provide a variety services. City commissions generally consist of commissioners/council members and a mayor.

The 24 municipalities in Pinellas County are as follows:

- City of Belleair Beach
- City of Belleair Bluffs
- City of Clearwater
- City of Dunedin
- City of Gulfport
- City of Indian Rocks Beach
- City of Largo
- City of Madeira Beach
- City of Oldsmar
- City of Pinellas Park
- City of Safety Harbor
- City of Seminole
- City of South Pasadena
- City of St. Pete Beach
- City of St. Petersburg
- City of Tarpon Springs
- City of Treasure Island
- Town of Belleair
- Town of Belleair Shore
- Town of Indian Shores
- Town of Kenneth City
- Town of North Redington Beach
- Town of Redington Beach
- Town of Redington Shores

Municipalities are authorized and encouraged to create/maintain a municipal emergency management program. Municipalities with a municipal emergency management program

will coordinate their activities with PCEM, and municipalities without an emergency management program will be served directly by PCEM pursuant to §252.38(2) FSS.

If a municipality elects to establish an emergency management program, it must adopt a city emergency management plan that complies with all standards and requirements applicable to County emergency management plans in accordance with §252.35(b) FSS.

A map of municipal and unincorporated areas of the county can be found as *Figure 56*.

Additional information about the municipalities within the county can be found on Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/municipalities.htm>.

Barrier Islands Governmental Council (BIG-C)

The BIG-C is a governmental council including 11 municipalities to stimulate communications between the barrier island cities to focus on challenges common to all. Additional information on the BIG-C can be found at their website: <http://www.barrierislandscouncil.com/>.

Mayor's Council

The Mayor's Council of Pinellas County is an independent group comprised of all the mayors the municipalities within the county.

Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG)

Pinellas County and municipal governments and their various departments provide numerous services to the residents and visitors. Some of these services are mandated by law, some are very visible to the public, and some are background services. Pinellas County has the authority to establish a primary and one or more secondary EOCs to provide continuity of government pursuant to §252.38(3)(a)(3) FSS.

Normal daily government operations may be impacted as a result of a significant workforce reduction (i.e. widespread illness), critical infrastructure disruption, or an array of other situations. COOP/COG plans and policies allow the government entities to mitigate and respond to incidents in a measured manner, reducing the impact on critical services.

PCEM maintains orders of succession memorandums from all County departments and municipalities for the purposes of COOP/COG. Each department and municipality is responsible to develop and build upon their own existing plans to ensure they can continue essential services. The PCEM Planning and Preparedness Program Lead is responsible for coordinating with County departments and municipalities on preservation of vital records necessary for continuing government functions and conducting post-disaster operations.

3.2 Interface with State Agencies

Many State of Florida agencies provide assistance and support to Pinellas County and/or its municipalities regularly, performing either direct or indirect services to residents. State agencies are commonly engaged during the planning process as it relates to their agency-

specific roles/responsibilities. Additionally, each state agency must designate emergency coordination officers that coordinate with local emergency management agencies as needed pursuant to §252.365 FSS. During normal operations, state agencies may be contacted or otherwise coordinated with directly unless directed otherwise.

During an EOC activation, if state agencies are asked to provide EOC staffing/support, or are needed to fulfill an unmet need, they must be requested through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and/or FDEM as appropriate.

Pinellas County shall serve as the liaison for and coordinator of municipal requests for state and federal assistance during disaster emergency operations pursuant to §252.38(1) FSS.

4 PREPAREDNESS

Preparedness can cover a wide range of activities, including those that have the potential to save lives, lessen property damage, and increase individual/community resilience. After Action Reports (AARs) and periodic reviews of processes and procedures lead to the ability to improve preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation measures.

4.1 Datasets, Equipment, and Systems

Communications Equipment

Communications is essential to successful operations before, during, and after a disaster. Effective communications allows for a coordinated response and recovery, necessitating the need for reliable, resilient, redundant, and secure communications systems in accordance with NIMS principles.

800 Megahertz (MHz) Radio

Pinellas County, through PCSES, manages and coordinates the operation and planning of the Intergovernmental 800 MHz SmartZone digital radio system along with a high performance data system for a variety of federal, state, municipal, County, and other governmental organizations operating within Pinellas County.

Amateur Radio

Pinellas County Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS) provides supplemental communication channels, such as through Federal Communications Commission and Statewide Amateur Radio Network frequencies, to support additional reliable and redundant communications during an incident. Amateur radio has been a proven method to provide communications for local, state, and federal authorities. If major communications infrastructure is lost during an emergency, amateur radio operators can be vital in establishing communication between response organizations during a disaster.

Conference Call Systems

Pinellas County utilizes a variety of conference call systems, including internal County conference call lines, GoToMeeting®, Microsoft Teams®, Zoom®, and SUNCOM, to support interagency coordination and collaboration. Groups such as the Executive Policy

Group (EPG) and the Response Operations Coordination Group (ROC) primarily meet through these conference call platforms.

Deployable Wireless Communication System Units

Pinellas County utilizes a series of PodRunner® deployable wireless communication system units, providing a mobile, self-powered communications and information management hub. These units offer wireless internet access, satellite communications, radio communications, and other customizable options for rapid deployment to incident locations.

Low Power Radio Frequency Modulation (FM) Transmitter

PCEM utilizes low power radio FM transmitters at emergency locations, such as Points of Distribution (POD), to broadcast a prerecorded message related to the site. Residents can then be directed to tune their vehicle’s radio to a specific frequency, allowing them to listen to the broadcasted information specific to the site.

Mobile Satellite (MSAT)

PCEM and some County departments, along with additional federal, state, municipal agencies operate MSATs to ensure the capacity for resilient and redundant communications in accordance with *NIMS* Communications and Information Management principles³⁹.

MSAT tests are conducted regularly, including with FDEM Region IV counties, FDEM, and the Department of Justice and Federal Bureau of Investigation Satellite Mutual Aid Radio Talk group (also known as J-SMART).

NWSChat

NWSChat is used for sharing critical warning decision expertise and other types of significant weather information between the NWS, emergency managers, and the media.

This information is exchanged in real-time with the media and emergency management community, who play a key role in communicating hazardous weather messages to the public. NWSChat is also an efficient means of seeking clarifications and enhancements to the communication originating from the NWS during a fast-paced significant weather or hydrologic incidents.

Telecommunications Service Priority

During emergencies, the public telephone network can experience congestion due to increased call volumes and/or damage to network facilities, hindering the ability of emergency personnel to complete calls. To address this, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) administers the Government Emergency

³⁹ *NIMS* – Communications and Information Management, Page 50.

Telecommunications Service (GETS) and Wireless Priority Service (WPS) programs, enabling critical personnel to increase the probability their call is completed.

GETS provides priority access and prioritized processing in the local and long distance segments of the landline networks, and WPS provides priority access and prioritized processing in all nationwide cellular networks, greatly increasing the probability of call completion.

PCEM manages GETS and WPS users on behalf of Pinellas County. Other eligible agencies must contact CISA to establish their own organizations and accounts and have their own procedures for managing their users.

Additional information about GETS and WPS can be found on CISA's website: <https://www.cisa.gov/emergency-communications>.

Datasets

Datasets are created and maintained to assist with planning, alert and notification, response and recovery operations.

Employee Information Database

Pinellas County maintains an employee information database, including business and personal contact information. This database is utilized for emergency warning and notification of employees.

Healthcare Facilities Database

PCEM maintains a database of the residential healthcare facilities that have their healthcare facility CEMPs that it reviews. This database can be utilized to communicate with them for incidents that may impact their operations.

Special Needs Database

PCEM maintains a registry for people who may need assistance with transportation or have medical conditions and may require specialized shelters or services for evacuation, or be on life sustaining medical equipment that requires uninterrupted power supply. PCEM and the partner agencies prepare evacuation and sheltering planning assumptions on the current registry numbers.

Volunteer Information

Pinellas County Human Resources (PCHR) maintains a volunteer database, known as Volunteers in Pinellas (VIP) Management, for all long-term volunteers and interns. This database includes their contact information, assignments, and a log of their County-related work. This has been expanded to allow VIP members to sign up for disaster assignments.

Warning and Notification Database (WAND)

PCEM maintains a database of contacts used for emergency and day to day communications with internal and external agencies. These contacts cover various critical sectors such as municipalities and special fire districts, County departments, EOC staff,

hospitals, utilities/infrastructure personnel, community groups, volunteer groups, among others. The WAND can be utilized to quickly identify contact information for warning and notification purposes.

The WAND is updated by PCEM at least annually, with additional maintenance occurring based upon monthly testing and as requested/needed.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

GIS allows for PCEM and partner organizations to make informed decisions by gathering and analyzing data through geographic and spatial methods.

ArcGIS Collector Application

As the result of a disaster or other incident, the ArcGIS Collector application can be used by damage assessment personnel to record information from the field, such as location, severity, and photographs of damages from a mobile devices.

Know Your Zone

Residents are encouraged to enter their address into the Know Your Zone application to get information on their evacuation zone, as well as the closest public shelter, special needs shelter, and hotel accommodations.

Hurricane Evacuation (HURREVAC)

HURREVAC is a storm tracking and decision support software designed for governmental emergency managers to make evacuation and other critical tropical cyclone related decisions. HURREVAC is administered by FEMA, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Within HURREVAC, storm surge modeling with the Sea, Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) model can be used to estimate storm surge heights based on variables such as a hurricane's size, forward speed, and trajectory. By running the SLOSH model thousands of times with hypothetical hurricane scenarios, the Maximum Envelopes of Water (MEOWs) and the Maximum of MEOWs (MOMs) are produced. MEOWs and MOMs help determine storm surge vulnerability, forming the basis for evacuation zone development.

Additional information about the SLOSH model can be found on the NHC website: <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/surge/slosh.php>, and additional information about HURREVAC can be found on the software's website: <https://www.hurrevac.com/>.

Pinellas Emergency Level Interoperable Critical Analysis (PELICAN)

PELICAN is an internally created GIS analysis tool managed by PCBTS, allowing PCEM to make informed data-driven decisions from a variety of datasets. These datasets can include live data (such as weather radar, traffic reports, and weather station reports) and preplanned static data (such as shelter locations, evacuation zones, and CIKR locations) overlaid to assist in the emergency management planning and decision making process.

Storm Impressions

Fire Districts utilize the Storm Impressions application on their mobile data terminals or through the internet to assess, collect, and communicate impact information to PCSES, PCEM, and other entities across the County to provide critical situational awareness about the scope and scale of damages. Storm Impressions displays a map of assessed locations, the level of damage, and additional notes regarding the impacts.

Storm Surge Protector Application

As part of the educational resources available to emphasize the dangers of storm surge, residents are encouraged to enter their address into the Storm Surge Protector application. This application provides residents a visualization of what the depth of storm surge will be at their home and neighborhood at each evacuation zone.

Additional information on the Storm Surge Protector Application can be found on Pinellas County's website: <http://pinellascounty.org/emergency/>.

Systems

PCEM and partner agencies have various tools and systems that are utilized to assist with planning, response, and recovery.

Badging and Personnel Accountability System

PCEM utilizes a badging and personnel accountability system, powered by Ident-A-Kid®, to issue EOC badges, track staff and volunteer hours, and audit feeding counts during an incident.

Barrier Island Emergency Access Permits

In an effort to prevent looting and burglary after large-scale mandatory evacuations, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) and the barrier islands developed a program to provide Emergency Access Permits (EAP) to all businesses and residents of the barrier islands.

Once a mandatory evacuation order has been lifted, EAPs are required to re-enter an evacuated area. Residents are asked to hang the permit from their vehicle's rearview mirror for re-entry post-evacuation, and law enforcement officers posted at entry points will scan the permit barcode on the to verify residency.

Additional information about the barrier island EAP program can be found on the PCSO website: <https://pcsoweb.com/emergency-access-permit>.

Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations (CAMEO)

CAMEO® is a system of software applications used to plan for and respond to chemical emergencies developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and NOAA to assist front-line chemical emergency planners and responders. The CAMEO system integrates a chemical database and a method to manage the data, an air dispersion model, and a mapping capability which all work interactively to share and display critical information in a timely fashion.

Emergency Status System (ESS)

ESS, managed by the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), provides information on capacity, utilization, and status of licensees providing residential or inpatient services. AHCA requires all licensees providing residential or inpatient services to use ESS for reporting its emergency status, planning, or operations.

Additional information and instructional documents for ESS can be found on AHCA's website: https://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Emergency_Activities/index.shtml.

EMSupply

EMSupply is a web-hosted inventory management software accessible through any internet browser or through the EMSupply app. The app is utilized to manage stock of emergency resources, manage multiple storage locations, and track the fulfillment of resource requests and shipments during incidents.

E-Plan

E-Plan, developed by the EPA and the University of Texas, is a system that provides first responders and emergency managers with hazardous chemical information. The system has a number of benefits, including databases of chemicals and facilities that house hazardous chemicals, chemical hazard and safety data, and emergency response guidance. Additionally, E-Plan allows emergency personnel to map real-time chemical plume scenarios, assisting in hazardous material management and response.

Safer-FL

Safer-FL is a web-based application utilized by FDEM starting in 2020 that assists residents in registering for emergency sheltering during a disaster. Safer-FL provides individuals information regarding congregate and non-congregate sheltering options in their area and connects them with government officials to help them make informed decisions on evacuation options prior to a storm landfall.

SharePoint

SharePoint is a web-based collaborative platform used by a variety agencies and County departments, including PCEM, to support operations through document management, form submission, dataset administration, and more.

Weather and Water Monitoring Stations

The County uses a variety of public and NGO weather and water monitoring stations to provide personnel with decision-relevant information regarding the nature and extent of hazards. PCEM operates a series of weather data and observation stations across the county, collecting an array of information such as rainfall amounts, temperature, and wind speed.

Additional information on the County's weather observation stations can be found on at <http://www.pinellascounty.org/gmaps/facilities/weather.htm>. Additional information on the network of operational water monitoring stations in Pinellas County can be found at <https://floodmaps.pinellascounty.org/pages/current-water-levels-riverine>.

WebEOC

WebEOC® is a web-based common operating application developed to help support information sharing, resource requests and record keeping of an event. WebEOC can be accessed using any internet browser or mobile device.

Although WebEOC is most commonly used during emergency incidents, it may be used as a coordination platform during planned events. Critical information is recorded within WebEOC and the various departments active during an incident will use the available boards to plan and coordinate their actions.

4.2 Evacuation Zones and Routes

Water threats such as storm surge and flooding are life-threatening situations. Evacuations are based on the amount of storm surge that is predicted for an approaching hurricane. Storm surge flooding happens quickly and is powerful, rushing over land and overtaking everything in its path. Pinellas County maintains maps and applications indicating parts of the county that are vulnerable to storm surge flooding.

Additional information on evacuation zones and routes can be found on Pinellas County's website: <http://pinellascounty.org/emergency/>.

Evacuation Zones

There are five zones that have been identified for evacuation based on where the storm surge may impact. "Zone A" areas are most vulnerable, and those in Zone A are evacuated first. This includes the barrier islands and low-lying areas and mobile home parks, regardless of location, in the county. Each storm will be assessed to determine the potential amount of storm surge and for the areas at risk in Zones B, C, D and up through Zone E an evacuation order will be issued, as deemed necessary.

A map of the evacuation zones can be found in *Figure 12*.

Statewide Regional Evacuation Studies (SRES) are conducted periodically to determine clearance times, evacuation behavior and evaluate storm surge inundation to assist counties in evacuation planning. The last analysis of storm surge inundation for Tampa Bay was done by the NHC in 2020, and a SRES is being conducted in 2021.

Evacuation Routes

Evacuation routes are identified along major thoroughfares throughout the state and are designated to assist evacuees with moving to non-evacuation areas. Evacuation routes are designated through cooperation of County and State emergency management and transportation officials. These routes include major highways, major arterials, and minor arterials. Evacuation routes can become very congested when evacuations are ordered. In-county evacuations are recommended to reduce the possibilities of people being stuck in traffic as storm conditions impact the state. An update to evacuation routes and major construction projects is considered during the SRES analysis and approximate clearance times for in-county and out-of-county clearance times are calculated.

4.3 Hazardous Materials Planning and Prevention Program

In accordance with the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)⁴⁰, also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, hazardous material chemical emergency planning is required by federal, state, local, and industry entities. Pursuant to EPCRA, the State of Florida created a State Hazardous Material Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs). Additionally, §252.81 - §252.905 FSS outlines the program requirements.

Under EPCRA, all public and private facilities that use, produce, or store extremely hazardous substances or hazardous chemicals are required to report their inventories on an annual basis. FDEM contracts with Pinellas County to provide required hazard analysis of facilities within the county.

The PCEM Hazardous Materials Specialist visits and/or electronically reviews hazardous materials sites, documents findings, coordinates with the facility to correct any discrepancies, and submits the findings to FDEM, SERC, Tampa Bay LEPC, and/or local fire departments as required. The PCEM Hazardous Materials Specialist may assist FDEM and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with reviews of chemical releases reported within Pinellas County for compliance with EPCRA requirements.

4.4 Healthcare Facility Emergency Planning Program

PCEM reviews all Long Term Care (LTC) and other healthcare facility CEMPs on an annual basis as required by FSS and/or FAC, including the following:

- Adult Day Care Centers
- Ambulatory Surgical Centers
- Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs)
- Hospitals
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Developmentally Disabled
- Nursing Homes
- Residential Treatment Facilities

ALFs may submit full healthcare facility CEMPs every other year, submitting a form on opposite years (stating there are no significant changes to their plan and provide updated agreements for transport and sheltering). All other LTC healthcare facilities are required to send in their healthcare facility CEMP annually.

In accordance with §252.38(1)(e) FSS, PCEM charges and collects fees for the review of external agencies and institution emergency management plans, such as healthcare

⁴⁰ 42 USC §11001 et seq. (1986) <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-emergency-planning-community-right-know-act>

facility CEMPs .The fees may not exceed the cost of providing a review of emergency management plans in accordance with fee schedules established by FDEM.

Additional information on healthcare plan reviews, including detailed healthcare facility CEMP criteria, planning guidance, and submission instructions can be found on Pinellas County’s website: http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/healthcare_facilities.htm.

4.5 National Weather Service (NWS) StormReady® Community

Pinellas County, as well as many of its municipalities, are recognized by the NWS as StormReady® communities. The StormReady® program encourages communities to take a proactive approach to improving their local hazardous weather operations and planning to help communities handle all types of extreme weather.

Additional information on the NWS StormReady® Program, including a list of recognized communities, can be found on the NWS website: <https://www.weather.gov/StormReady>.

4.6 Personnel and Volunteers

To ensure Pinellas County can continue critical functions and provide disaster assistance to the community, County employees are asked to fulfill a disaster assignment. Pursuant to §252.38(3) (a) (4) FSS, Pinellas County has the authority to assign and make available for duty the offices and agencies of the political subdivision, including their employees, for emergency operation purposes.

Disaster Assignment and Preparedness Assessment (DAPA)

The Disaster Assignment and Preparedness Assessment (DAPA) program was designed to identify essential disaster roles and gauge the preparedness level of Pinellas County employees. DAPA gives employees a defined task in the community’s disaster preparedness and recovery operations and encourages personal preparedness. Depending upon the incident, disaster assignments may start before impacts begin and extend weeks after impacts end.

Employees who are critical to their County department are identified as Department Essential. These employees will be required to select or be assigned to a disaster assignment by their department Director or designee and may be required to work before and during the incident or respond after the incident has occurred.

Employees who are not critical to their County department operations are considered County Essential. These employees may either select an open disaster assignment or be assigned one by PCEM, or during an activation by the EOC Planning Section.

Volunteers

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs)

CERT programs serves to organize and train volunteers about disaster preparedness and response, helping to assist the community with a variety of disaster-related activities. CERT programs in Pinellas County are administered and managed through several municipal and special fire districts.

Volunteers in Pinellas (VIP)

Pinellas County utilizes volunteers to fulfill some roles, both during normal operations and during an emergency. All County volunteers are managed directly by County departments, with the countywide VIP program administrated through PCHR. All volunteers are required to attend an orientation, complete a background check, as well as be photographed and fingerprinted.

Additional information on the Pinellas County's VIP program, as well as open opportunities and job descriptions, can be found on the County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/volserv/default.htm>.

Pinellas County Auxiliary Radio Operations

Amateur Radio Operators serve by assisting the County with volunteer radio operations at essential emergency locations throughout the county (such as the EOC or public evacuation shelters). ACS volunteers are managed through PCEM and the County's VIP program.

Additional information on ACS can be found on Pinellas County's website: <https://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/radio.htm>.

4.7 Public Awareness and Education

Preparing the public is essential and takes a variety of partnerships to share all-hazard preparedness messaging. PCEM, PCC, and other partner agencies jointly develop public education campaigns and materials to engage and educate residents. The *Marketing Strategic Plan* identifies how PCEM and its outreach partners will embark on providing community outreach and continue to expand its efficacy of promoting preparedness within our community year round.

Ambassador Program

PCEM maintains an Ambassador Program to help educate the public about how to prepare for emergencies, what to do during and after an emergency, and distribute outreach materials. Ambassadors work at outreach events to talk with residents about preparedness and answer questions about evacuations, shelters, supply kits and a host of other issues.

In partnership with PCSB, PCEM helped develop a Youth Ambassador Program to make emergency preparedness presentations in schools across the county. Teams of students from local high schools review, present, and answer questions from other students at Middle and Elementary schools.

Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide

Pinellas County develops a Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide annually. The guide contains information on severe weather and man-made hazards, and contains planning guidelines for homeowners, renters, businesses, special needs residents, and residents with pets and/or children.

Printed copies of these guides are distributed throughout the community, including through municipalities, government offices, libraries, and other locations. Guides are created in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese and large print is available upon request.

Additional information about the Hurricane/All Hazards Preparedness Guide, including the current versions of the guides, can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://pinellascounty.org/emergency/allhazardguide.htm>.

Mobile Home Park Safety Campaigns

PCEM, PCC, municipalities, and fire districts recognize the threats that severe weather such as high winds, tornadoes, and hurricanes pose to mobile homes and recreational vehicles (RVs). Since 2019, active education campaigns have been designed to inform residents of mobile home and RV parks of how they can take preventive measures to protect their lives and properties before severe weather strikes. These measures include how to secure outside items, utilize tie down straps and protect window openings, as well as evacuating when ordered to do so for a hurricane or seeking safety when a tornado warning is issued.

Pinellas County Public Connection Television (PCC-TV)

Pinellas County, through PCC, runs a public access channel for airing both scheduled and live programming. BCC meetings are televised live and repeated during the week with closed-captioning available for the hearing impaired. When not broadcasting live presentations/meetings, informative presentations and programming is scheduled (including emergency preparedness and planning tips). During an emergency, regular programming on PCC-TV is cancelled and programming is devoted to broadcasting emergency information to county residents.

Additional information about PCC-TV, including live streaming video, can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/tv/>.

Preparedness Events

PCEM and partners conduct preparedness events to include educational materials and in some cases, some hurricane kit supplies, to the community. Events in partnership with other community agencies, such as senior centers or community feeding partners help reach at risk populations.

Public Transportation Vehicle Signage

PCEM, PCC, and PSTA partnered together to display preparedness messaging inside PSTA buses and other public transportation vehicles. These signs display information in English and Spanish to residents, such as how to find their evacuation zone, registering for Alert Pinellas, and registering for special needs evacuation assistance.

Ready Pinellas Mobile Application

Pinellas County maintains a mobile application, *Ready Pinellas*, designed to help residents prepare themselves and their families before a storm and as a storm approaches. The application connects residents to features such as readiness checklists,

planning resources such as *Know Your Zone* and *Alert Pinellas*, and track storms as they approach.

Additional information about *Ready Pinellas* can be found at Pinellas County’s website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/readypinellas/>

Severe Weather Awareness Week

Severe weather awareness week occurs in February and highlights a variety of topics. The NWS provides educational materials that are promoted by PCEM and other partners. PCEM conducts an interactive tornado drill with partners and the community every year.

Additional information on the annual Severe Weather Awareness Week, including information about the statewide tornado drill partnership, can be found on FDEM’s website: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/directors-office/media/swaw/>.

Social Media

Pinellas County and its departments operate a variety of social media accounts to share information and awareness campaign messaging to residents⁴¹. This includes accounts on the following social media platforms:

- LinkedIn
- NextDoor
- Flickr
- YouTube
- Instagram
- Facebook
- Twitter

Additional information on Pinellas County’s social media sites, including links to the currently active accounts, can be found at: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/social-networking.htm>.

Speakers Bureau

Pinellas County attempts to provide speakers knowledgeable in more than 120 topics of interest, including emergency preparedness topics. The Speaker’s Bureau is managed by PCC, with requests for emergency preparedness speakers being routed to PCEM.

Additional information on Pinellas County’s Speakers Bureau can be found on Pinellas County’s website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/speak/>.

Storm Surge Signs

Pinellas County, in partnership with PCSB and municipalities, has numerous signs depicting the potential height of storm surge from a major hurricane at various locations throughout the county. The signs provide residents a visual depiction of how high storm

⁴¹ Managed in accordance with Pinellas County Administrative Directive Number 3.2.

surge could reach in the community and reminding them to know their evacuation zone by going to the County's website.

Summits and Presentations

PCEM conducts tailored workshops for community groups to promote preparedness and address their specific concerns. Summits over the last few years have included mobile home parks, barrier islands, condo associations, businesses, LTC facilities and faith based partners.

Website

Pinellas County maintains a website to provide an array of information to residents. The website allows residents to look up evacuation zones, evacuation routes, provides disaster planning tips, and updates on emergency situations.

Information and updates to the website can be found at: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/>.

4.8 Shelter Planning

Shelter planning can vary from short-term sheltering for limited populations, community sheltering, up through countywide evacuations that require sites that are designated for emergency sheltering. The provision of sheltering may be done through formal or informal means. Non-risk shelters are utilized for non-wind incidents, or after a storm when the wind hazard has subsided. Risk shelters are used for high wind incidents and must meet a higher standard of criteria for utilization.

Community Sheltering

Community sheltering is done on a localized basis and may be used for smaller events that displace people from their homes temporarily, for weak tropical storms or after a storm when there is no longer a wind threat and people cannot return to their homes. Community sheltering is usually done in non-risk shelters that may include locations such as hotels/motels, community centers, colleges, or faith based locations.

Emergency Sheltering

Emergency sheltering is utilized for strong tropical storms and hurricanes and are intended to provide a safe space to take refuge during a severe weather incident. Sites selected as emergency shelters are risk rated and must meet the building code requirements referred to in *American Red Cross (ARC) 4496 Standards for Hurricane Evacuation Shelter Selection*⁴². Sites are opened based upon the expected demand and location outside of potential storm surge inundation areas.

The emergency sheltering consists of three different types of shelters: general population, pet friendly and special needs. Shelter locations include properties owned by PCSB, BCC, St. Petersburg College (SPC) and individual municipalities located within the County. Pursuant to §252.385 FSS, *Public facilities, including schools, postsecondary*

⁴² https://portal.floridadisaster.org/shelters/External/Archives/2015SRR/2015SRR-AppxC_ARC.pdf

education facilities, and other facilities owned or leased by the state or local governments which are suitable for use as public hurricane evacuation shelters shall be made available at the request of the local emergency management agencies.

Additionally, §252.38(1)(d) FSS requires that during a declared state or local emergency and upon the request of the director of a local emergency management agency, the district school board or school boards in the affected area shall participate in emergency management by providing facilities and necessary personnel to staff such facilities. Each school board providing transportation assistance in an emergency evacuation shall coordinate the use of its vehicles and personnel with the local emergency management agency.

Once the threat of severe weather has passed, additional locations may be used to assist in demobilizing out of the PCSB locations as quickly as possible to allow for schools to reopen, as able. These shelters are referred to as demobilization shelters; and can include locations such as privately owned warehouses and municipal or County-owned community centers.

General Population Shelters

General population shelters are locations that provide refuge from severe weather incidents with minimal accommodations. These locations provide shelter and meals. They do not have an emergency power supply or other supplies (i.e. cots, blankets, etc.).

Pet Friendly Shelters

Pinellas County maintains designated shelters that can accommodate persons with pets pursuant to §252.3568 FSS. Pet friendly shelters provide the same limited accommodations as the general population shelters but allow residents to bring their cats and dogs. At these sites, the gymnasium is generally the dedicated area for housing the pets of those taking shelter at the facility.

Special Needs Shelters

Special needs shelters are equipped to accommodate evacuees with minimal medical needs. These sites have an emergency power and water supply; and are provided with specialized equipment such as cots and durable medical supplies (i.e. wheelchairs, oxygen concentrators, etc.). These sites also provide evacuees with the same meal services as the general population shelters.

Shelter Staffing and Equipment

All emergency shelters will be assigned a radio operator, janitorial staff, law enforcement, and emergency medical services staff. General population shelters are staffed by a combination of County departments, municipalities, ARC, and community-based organizations. Pet friendly shelters are staffed similarly to general population shelters, with Pinellas County Animal Services (PCAS) managing the animal portion of the shelter. PCSB owned sites will be assigned a facility liaison and a cooking staff.

Pursuant to §381.0011(7) FSS, FDOH is responsible for managing and coordinating emergency preparedness and disaster response functions for the availability and staffing of special needs shelters.

Demobilization Sheltering

Once the threat of severe weather has passed, the goal will be to demobilize out of the PCSB locations as quickly as able, to allow for schools to reopen. These shelters are referred to as demobilization shelters and are intended for persons who cannot return home or those who may have been displaced by damages to their homes. Depending on the level of destruction in the community, any site, including PCSB sites, may be considered and utilized. Demobilization sites may include locations such as privately owned warehouses and municipal or County-owned community centers.

Short term and long term housing solutions may need to be developed and are discussed in *Section 7–5: Disaster Assistance*.

Voluntary Community Sheltering Programs

Adopt a Shelter Program

The Pinellas County Adopt a Shelter Program was developed for non-profit, faith-based, or private organizations to provide personnel or appropriate facilities as shelters. This could be for the public, their employees or to their organizations' members during or following a disaster. §252.51 FSS provides some waiver of liability for persons or organizations who voluntarily offer sheltering.

Host Home Program

Host homes belong to citizens who live in non-evacuation areas of the county who open their doors to friends, coworkers, fellow parishioners or members of the same club, who in the event of a hurricane, would need to evacuate their own home. Host homes is not a County program but is promoted as a voluntary program run by an organization. The concept of host homes is to encourage and assist organizations to set up and manage their own Host Homes Program for their members/employees.

Additional information on the Host Home Program can be found on Pinellas County's website: <http://pinellascounty.org/emergency/hosthomes.htm>.

4.9 Special Needs Evacuation Assistance Program

Pursuant to §252.355 FSS, PCEM, in coordination with FDEM, is responsible for the maintenance and operation of a special needs registry to identify the potential need for evacuation and shelter support.

The Special Needs Evacuation Assistance Program is designed to provide transportation and/or sheltering assistance to Pinellas County residents with functional and/or medical needs (also referred to as special needs) who normally live independently. The need for assistance may arise due to a natural or manmade emergency and can range from a localized incident to a county-wide disaster.

The program is implemented through a partnership between municipal and special fire districts, FDOH – Pinellas, PCAS, PCSES, PCSB, and PSTA. Fire districts support the registration process year round and coordinate the transportation of residents within their district.

Residential healthcare facilities are not eligible for this program and are responsible for having healthcare facility CEMPs that address the evacuation and care of their residents for emergencies that may occur.

Healthcare support agencies (such as home health agencies, hospice agencies, nursing agencies, and home medical equipment providers) are required to plan for continuing care of their patients pursuant to the various public health sections of FSS, including §400.492, §400.506, §400.610, and §400.934.

Additional information on the Special Needs Evacuation Assistance Program, including registration forms and guidance, can be found on Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/specialneeds.htm>.

4.10 Training and Exercise Program

Maintaining and implementing the training and exercise program is a continual effort, consisting of the identification, planning, and implementation to enhance readiness and assess operational knowledge and procedures. The PCEM Training, Exercise, and Notification Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of the local training and exercise program, including coordination with partner agencies, development of an *Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP)* and submittal of the *IPP* to FDEM. The *IPP* is developed through a strategic planning process with partners to address gaps, increase capabilities and practice operational response together. As part of the exercise and real-life incident process, PCEM maintains a master Improvement Plan to help track items to inform the *IPP* and the *PCEM Strategic Plan*.

Training

PCEM is responsible for local emergency management training program coordination. Training may take the form of classroom courses, online courses, interactive webinars, and independent study courses.

A variety of training opportunities are available for the various groups and organizations within Pinellas County. The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC), FEMA, FDEM, Pinellas County, municipalities, or other organizations, may provide training as required/appropriate. Requests for special courses, such as those through the NDPC or FDEM, shall be coordinated with PCEM.

Emergency management training for County, municipal, and NGOs at the local level includes an array of topics, often encouraging crosssectoral collaboration. Training offerings are scheduled as outlined in the *IPP*. Personnel responding to disasters may be required to take certain courses for their activation roles to ensure NIMS compliance or operational readiness.

Some of these topics include:

- Municipal – WebEOC, Damage Assessment Collector, PODs
- County Government – WebEOC, DAPA, Shelter Operations
- NGOs – WebEOC, Healthcare Facility CEMPs, Shelter Operations

Training is conducted in accordance with County, FDEM, FEMA, and NDPC directives and requirements, including the requirements for instructors and course management.

Exercise

Exercises play a vital role in preparedness. An exercise is an event or activity, delivered through discussion or action, to develop, assess, or validate plans, policies, procedures, and capabilities that organizations can use to achieve planned objectives. All agencies identified in the *CEMP* as a lead or supporting agency (both governmental and NGOs) participate in exercises as it pertains to their roles and responsibilities, with many of these agencies being listed in *Table 1*.

Exercises are scheduled as outlined in the *IPP*.

There are several different levels of exercises, as outlined by the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP):

Discussion Based

- Seminar
- Game
- Tabletop
- Workshop

Operations Based

- Drill
- Full-Scale
- Functional

PCEM and many partner agencies develop, collaborate, and facilitate exercises and invite external agencies to bolster emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. Funding to support the development of multiagency exercises, may be available through:

- Emergency Management Preparedness Grant (EMPG)
- State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)
- UASI

Exercises are evaluated as outlined in HSEEP. Following an exercise evaluation, an AAR IP is developed to document areas of sustainment and areas for improvement for equipment, plans and policies, training, or other areas. The AAR IP tracks the progression of corrective actions taken by assigned agencies to address each area for improvement. The AAR IP guides the development of the *IPP*, continuing the emergency management integrated preparedness cycle.

5 RESPONSE

Different threats and incidents will generate different response actions, including the type and level of coordination needed between agencies, including the convening of Multiagency Coordination (MAC) groups, EOC activation, or other response measures to ensure the public health, safety, and welfare of residents.

5.1 Operational Coordination

Operational coordination is critical to establish and maintain a unified and coordinated operational structure and process that appropriately integrates all critical stakeholders and supports the execution of core capabilities.

Duty Officer (DO) Program

PCEM has a DO program that identifies staff members, who on a rotational basis, are responsible to monitor and participate in incident calls and webinars and may receive notifications from partner agencies of impending or occurring incidents. The DO is responsible for notifying the PCEM Director or designee of items that may require active monitoring or actions. The DO will coordinate communications to partners for smaller incidents, with communications transitioning to the EOC Planning Section for more complex incidents.

Executive Policy Group (EPG)

Pinellas County has an EPG⁴³ that is convened when an incident escalates to the need for an EOC Level 2 – Partial Activation or Level 1 – Full Activation. The EPG is comprised of the following members:

- Pinellas County Administrator
- Pinellas County Attorney
- PCEM, Director
- Pinellas County Sheriff
- PCSB, Superintendent
- FDOH – Pinellas, Director
- PCFCA, President

Additional members to be included in the EPG meetings:

- Deputy County Administrator and Chief of Staff
- Assistant County Administrator(s)
- PCC, Director

The EPG provides direction and control for the response and recovery operations of impending or occurring disasters by providing sound administrative recommendations to the elected officials, providing management direction to the County departments in a

⁴³ As defined by §34-26 Pinellas County Code.

coordinated and strategic manner, and disseminating information to the media through PCC.

The EPG may bring in Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to provide additional information or insight into a specific hazard or situation.

Response Operations Coordination Group (ROC)

The ROC is lead and managed by PCEM, and is convened to provide countywide coordination for an incident when multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency and/or countywide coordination is required.

The ROC consists of municipalities, fire districts, County departments, ESF agencies, and hospitals. The ROC is facilitated in person or via conference calls to provide and receive updated incident data and coordinate strategies for disaster response and recovery operations.

It is the responsibility of ROC members to convey the situational and operational information shared during each ROC meeting within their organizations to ensure operational readiness.

Other Coordination Calls

In addition to the aforementioned MAC groups, PCEM or other partner agencies may facilitate additional coordination calls as necessary as the incident requires.

County Government Coordination

PCEM and/or County Administration may communicate with County departments and/or appointing authorities to coordinate policy decisions, implement necessary actions, and facilitate information sharing.

Municipal Government Coordination

PCEM and/or County Administration may communicate with municipal administrators to coordinate policy decisions, implement necessary actions, and facilitate information sharing.

FDEM County Emergency Managers Situation Update

To coordinate regional and/or statewide incidents, FDEM facilitates situational update calls with county emergency managers and necessary SEOC representatives. FDEM may bring in external SMEs to provide additional information or insight into a specific hazard or situation.

FDEM Region IV County Emergency Management Director Coordination

FDEM facilitates regional coordination calls between FDEM Region IV counties for the purposes of organizing regional policy/evacuation decision making. FDEM Region IV includes Pinellas, Hillsborough, Pasco, Polk, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, and Hardee counties.

NWS Weekly Partner Briefing

The NWS – Tampa Bay facilitates a weekly partner briefing for emergency management and other partner agencies to discuss the upcoming forecast, potential weather hazards, and other related topics (such as climate, hydrology, significant updates to NWS products, etc.) as necessary.

NWS Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS)

The NWS – Tampa Bay facilitates IDSS via incident specific briefings for emergency managers to discuss impending severe weather forecasts and potential impacts for localized decision making. These briefings are scheduled as required by the hazard, and help augment publically available forecast products. Additionally, the IDSS briefings provide useful forecast context such as providing a more localized emphasis, expressing forecast confidence, and providing comparative historical references.

5.2 Levels of Disasters

A disaster, defined by §252.34 FSS, is any natural, technological, or civil emergency that causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to result in a declaration of a state of emergency by a County, the Governor, or the President of the United States. PCEM has identified the following levels of disasters for planning purposes:

Incident

Usually an isolated and unpredictable situation which impacts a small population in a defined geographical area within the county.

Minor Disaster

Usually an isolated and unpredictable situation which impacts a portion of the population, generally within a defined geographical area. A minor disaster is likely to be within the response capabilities of local government and to result in only a minimal need for state or federal assistance.

Major Disaster

Single or multiple situations that presents an exceptional threat to life and property, impacting a widespread portion of the population and/or geographic area. A major disaster will likely exceed local capabilities and require a broad range of state and federal assistance.

Catastrophic Disaster

Single or multiple situations that presents an exceptional threat to life and property, impacting a widespread portion of the population and/or geographic area, which overwhelms local response capabilities and impedes the fulfillment of essential services. A catastrophic disaster will require massive state and federal assistance, such as immediate military involvement.

5.3 Local State of Emergency

Under the authority of §252.38(3)(a)(5) FSS and Article II §2.04(k) *Pinellas County Code*, the BCC Chairperson can declare a Local State of Emergency which may include the issuance of an evacuation order or other protective measures for Pinellas County. In some instances, the Local State of Emergency may be issued before an evacuation is ordered. The BCC may empower the County Administrator or designee to issue any necessary order, such as protective measures and/or mandatory evacuations, as conditions require as a provision within the Local State of Emergency.

If a quorum of the BCC is not able to meet, §34-27 establishes the order of succession to be followed in designating an “official authority” who is empowered to act on behalf of the BCC. The order of succession is: the Chairperson of the Board or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, or, in the absence of both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, the County Administrator, or, in the absence of the County Administrator, the Deputy County Administrator and Chief of Staff or next available Assistant County Administrator (or other identified county officer, official, or employee) who has been identified in the order of succession which the County Administrator must issue at least once a year. The declaration may cover all or part of the territory of Pinellas County including incorporated municipalities.

The Sheriff, a Mayor, and/or a City Police Chief may also declare a Local State of Emergency for their jurisdiction for a period of 72 hours pursuant to §870.42 FSS.

Protective Measures

Protective measures are implemented when life safety concerns are present or impending. Recommended protective measures may include:

- Evacuation to safely direct the movement of vulnerable populations and animals from high-risk areas to safer locations. Evacuation planning will also involve consideration of safe re-entry guidelines.
- Shelter-In-Place to restrict the movement of an at-risk population due to a present or impending hazard. Such as a hazardous material release or severe weather.
- Quarantine or Isolation to restrict the movement of at risk or persons who may be contagious to prevent the transmission of a disease.
- Re-Entry to safely allow people to come back into an impacted area, once the hazards have been remediated and public safety services are re-established. Re-entry may be phased or time limited due to prevailing conditions.

5.4 Levels of EOC Activation

PCEM has identified levels of activation for the EOC that transition from coordination at the department level to countywide coordination. Agencies are activated depending upon the level of support needed from them and in conjunction with any protective, response

or recovery efforts. Additional information on PCEM’s activities and the expected or recommended actions from County departments and partner agencies at each EOC activation level can be found as *Table 3*.

Level 4 – Normal Operations

Monitor local and regional incidents and evaluate potential threats.

Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring

An incident requires PCEM to act or coordinate efforts. Notification to County Administration is made of incidents that require enhanced monitoring.

Level 2 – Partial Activation

An incident requires limited coordination/support at the EOC.

Level 1 – Full Activation

An incident requires high levels of coordination/support at the EOC.

The PCEM Director or designee may implement EOC Level 4 – Normal Operations and EOC Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring on behalf of the department. EOC Level 2 – Partial Activation and EOC Level 1 – Full Activation are determined in conjunction with the EPG.

5.5 EOC Structure

The EOC is organized as an Incident Command System (ICS) hybrid to facilitate emergency response support throughout the county. The EOC organization chart can be found as *Figure 58*. The lead agency may change dependent on the type of incident, level of disaster, and/or the phase of response and recovery. Additional information, such as the lead entities for specific hazards, can be found in the *CEMP Volume II – Hazard Specific Plans*. SMEs may be added in organizational components as necessary with the overall structure remaining similar. The EOC falls under the direction of the EPG who sets the overall goals and objectives, and these are implemented through the EOC Director, EOC Section Chiefs, EOC Branch Directors, and ESF liaisons.

EOC Director

The EOC Director is responsible for the overall management of the EOC, and coordinating with the EPG and other government officials. The EOC Director implements the goals and objectives as set by the EPG and coordinates with the EOC Section Chiefs for implementation.

EOC Planning Section

The EOC Planning Section is responsible for the collection, analysis, evaluation, and dissemination of information regarding incidents for which the EOC is activated. The EOC Planning Section is led by PCEM. The EOC Planning Section is activated at an EOC Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring and higher to ensure planning meetings and products are

implemented early on in case of escalation. The EOC Planning Section takes over the responsibilities of the PCEM DO.

Additional information about the EOC Planning Section can be found in *CEMP Volume III – ESF #5 Planning* and the PCEM *EOC Planning Section SOG*.

EOC Operations Section

The EOC Operations Section is responsible for the oversight and coordination of all operations directly applicable to the mission and primary incident objectives. The EOC Operations Section is divided into additional elements, such as branches, divisions, and groups as necessary. The EOC Operations Section Chief communicates, activates and supervises organizational elements in accordance with the IAP and directs its execution through EOC Branch Directors and EOC Liaisons.

EOC Logistics Section

The EOC Logistics Section responsible for the coordination and support of Pinellas County's resource management system. It plans for, implements, and controls the efficient, effective flow of goods, services, and related information from the point of origin to the point of consumption in a unified manner to meet emergency requirements. It also acts as an agent on behalf of municipal and other local agencies to locate, procure, contract, deploy, manage, and demobilize necessary emergency resources.

The EOC Logistics Section is also responsible for managing the resource request and mission tracking functions. All logistics functions will be executed in a manner to reduce costs, ensure appropriate support actions, and decrease delivery time.

EOC Finance and Administration Section

The EOC Finance and Administration Section is responsible for the organization, management, and operation of activities related to the administrative and fiscal aspects of the incident. These activities are administered within the guidelines, policies, and constraints established by the EPG, County policy, or other guiding agencies.

EOC Public Information Office

The EOC Public Information Office is responsible for the preparation, coordination, and timely dissemination of accurate emergency public information. The EOC Public Information Office is led by PCC.

Additional information about the EOC Public Information Office can be found in *CEMP Volume III – ESF #14 Public Information* and the PCC *ESF #14 Public Information Office SOG*.

County Information Center (CIC)

The CIC is a call center, activated and opened during emergency situations, to provide residents with a centralized point of contact to make inquiries or report information. The CIC was created based on best practices outlined by FEMA, highlighting the importance that local governments establish centralized a rumor control center for disasters as part

of the JIS. Additionally, *NIMS* principles layout the importance of addressing and managing rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence.

PCEM, in coordination with the PCC and PCSES, may activate the CIC as necessary. Other County departments and/or appointing authorities may be required to fulfill roles in staffing or supporting the CIC. Additional information on activating and managing the CIC can be found in the PCEM *CIC SOG*.

EOC Safety Officer

The EOC Safety Officer is responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations, and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety. The EOC Safety Officer's focus is safety of personnel assigned to the EOC and responding personnel in the field.

5.6 Emergency Support Function (ESF) Structure

Pinellas County utilizes an ESF structure as necessary to coordinate emergency roles and categorical functions. The ESF structure chart can be found as *Figure 57* and additional detail on the ESFs is found in *Volume III*.

- ESF #1 – Transportation
- ESF #2 – Communications
- ESF #3 – Public Works and Systems
- ESF #4 – Firefighting
- ESF #5 – Planning
- ESF #6 – Mass Care
- ESF #7 – Resource Management
- ESF #8 – Health and Medical
- ESF #9 – Search and Rescue
- ESF #10 – Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection
- ESF #11 – Food and Water
- ESF #12 – Energy
- ESF #13 – Military Support
- ESF #14 – Public Information
- ESF #15 – Volunteer and Donations
- ESF #16 – Law Enforcement
- ESF #17 – Animals and Agriculture
- ESF #18 – Business and Industry

The Pinellas County's Recovery Support Function (RSF) structure is detailed *Section 7 – Recovery*.

5.7 Alert and Notification

Alert and notification of an event that is impending or has occurred will be accomplished through various processes and systems that are utilized by Pinellas County including but not limited to:

Alert Pinellas

Alert Pinellas is a web-based mass notification system tool designed to quickly disseminate information through multiple modalities including email, text, fax, pager, and phone calls. Alert Pinellas is powered by Everbridge^{®44} and funded by FDEM's Alert Florida Statewide Notification Initiative as required by §252.35(2)(a)(6) FSS. Pinellas County and its municipalities must enter into and abide by the conditions set forth in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FDEM to maintain access to the system.

PCEM, other County departments, and municipalities may also utilize the system for internal employee and partner notifications. Any information furnished by a person for the purposes of being provided emergency notifications is exempt from public records pursuant to §119.071(5)(j) FSS.

Additional information about Alert Pinellas, including the portal to sign up, can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas/>.

Billboard Emergency Alert System (BEAS) Program

The BEAS program is a voluntary public-private partnership between PCEM and privately and publicly owned electronic billboards. The BEAS program is designed to enhance the County's existing emergency alert systems in order to display emergency information such as severe weather alerts, evacuation information, and other critical information necessary to protect the lives and property of citizens, businesses, and visitors.

Additional information about the BEAS program can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/beas/>.

Digital Paging

PCSES utilizes a digital paging system to send incident notifications to emergency service agencies and some County departments, including specific notification processes such as the Airport Emergency Notification System. These notifications can come in the form of a text message to cell phones or a message to wireless pagers.

FDEM State Watch Office (SWO) Notifications

Pinellas County is required to report certain incidents to FDEM, pursuant to §252.351 FSS. PCSES – Regional 911 Division, as the single primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) in the county is the designated agency to report required incidents to the FDEM SWO as soon practical following the initial incident response.

⁴⁴ Pursuant to FDEM contract DEM-D0003

FDEM publishes a SWO Guide for County Warning Points and PSAPs, providing references and guidelines for incident reporting. The latest version of this guide can be found on FDEM’s website: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/swo>.

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

IPAWS was created by FEMA in response Executive Order 13407, allowing for federal, state, and local governments to issue critical public alerts and warnings in their jurisdictions. Common examples of messages sent through IPAWS are America’s Missing: Broadcasting Emergency Response (commonly known as AMBER) Alerts sent by FDLE and tornado warnings sent by NWS. Public alerting systems accessed through IPAWS includes:

- All-Hazards Emergency Message Collection System
- Emergency Alert System
- Internet Services
- Wireless Emergency Alerts

Pinellas County maintains access to IPAWS through a MOA with FEMA. Under this agreement, PCEM must demonstrate the ability to compose and send a message through IPAWS by conducting a monthly proficiency test. Pinellas County utilizes EMnet® and Everbridge® to access and send messages through IPAWS.

Additional information about IPAWS and the associated public alert systems can be found at FEMA’s website: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/integrated-public-alert-warning-system>.

iNWS Mobile Alerting

iNWS is a service intended for emergency managers, community leaders, and other government agencies, providing text and email notifications about NWS products (such as watches, warnings, and advisories) issued for their jurisdiction, allowing these stakeholders to take and encourage protective actions.

Additional information about iNWS, including how partner agencies can register, can be found on the NWS’s website: <https://inws.ncep.noaa.gov/>.

Ready Pinellas Mobile Application

Pinellas County maintains a mobile application, *Ready Pinellas*, designed to help residents prepare themselves and their families before a storm and as a storm approaches. The application connects residents to features such as readiness checklists, planning resources such as *Know Your Zone* and *Alert Pinellas*, and track storms as they approach. Push notifications have been implemented so updates can be sent to users.

Additional information about *Ready Pinellas* can be found at Pinellas County’s website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/readypinellas/>

Roadway Dynamic Messaging Signs

Pinellas County Public Works (PCPW) utilizes a series of Dynamic Messaging Signs (DMS) as part of the County’s larger Advanced Transportation Management System and

Intelligent Transportation System ATMS/ITS). These DMS have the ability to display messages on digital signage across major roadways, both during non-emergency and emergency situations.

Additional information about the PCPW ATMS/ITS DMS can be found at Pinellas County's website: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/publicworks/its.htm>.

Street Outreach Teams

Street outreach programs for homeless individuals maintain frequent contact with unsheltered individuals during hurricane season to ensure they are aware of the status of any impending storms, can locate pick-up locations for transportation in the event of an evacuation, and can access special needs disaster shelters or pet-friendly disaster shelters, as appropriate. In addition to providing information through street outreach, this information is shared at meal sites, day programs, and similar service locations.

6 RESOURCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Understanding what resources are available, either physically or through existing contracts, is extremely important. The County, partner agencies, the region and the state all have assets that may be needed for utilization for an incident or disaster. There are several ways this is accomplished both year round and in real time:

- Deliver essential commodities, equipment, and services in support of impacted communities and survivors, to include emergency power and fuel support, as well as the coordination of access to community staples.
- Synchronize logistics capabilities to enable the restoration of impacted supply chains.

6.1 Mutual Aid Agreements

Mutual aid is a fundamental component to emergency planning and response. Within the State of Florida, a statewide mutual aid system exists to ensure jurisdictions are provided adequate resources and support when their own resources are unable to sufficiently respond to a situation. Political subdivisions within the state are authorized to develop and enter into mutual aid agreements within the state and should provide copies of the agreements to FDEM pursuant to §252.40 (1) FSS. Partner agencies should provide copies of the agreements to PCEM for the purposes of resource management.

A list of mutual aid agreements, Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), and other emergency management agreements can be found in *Section 9: References and Authorities*.

Requesting Mutual Aid

Pinellas County and its municipalities are signatories to the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA), solidifying the integration of mutual aid into planning processes. The SMAA may function independently or with other mutual aid agreements, such as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).

Pinellas County and its municipalities have established automatic mutual aid agreements between fire departments and law enforcement agencies to ensure the closest unit responds to emergency fire or medical calls, regardless of location or jurisdiction. Pinellas County or its municipalities may request mutual aid as signatories to the SMAA.

Requests for resources, to include mutual aid, will be made using the guidelines outlined in applicable plans/procedures. The requesting agency must ensure that responding mutual aid personnel are properly documenting costs and other requirements, as incomplete documentation may negatively impact requests for reimbursement.

Responding to Requests for Mutual Aid

Pinellas County and its municipalities may also provide mutual aid, responding to other jurisdictions as requested. Pinellas County and its municipalities may respond to mutual aid requests as signatories to the SMAA. A mission number must be obtained from the SEOC and/or FDEM for reimbursement eligibility, regardless of how the mutual aid tasking is coordinated. The mission number(s) and other documentation (such as forms documenting activities performed, costs incurred, timesheets, etc.) may be required for billing receiving agencies and/or reimbursement applications.

Some resources, such as fire and law enforcement assets, are tasked under the SMAA and coordinated through associations such as the Florida Fire Chiefs Association, Florida Police Chiefs Association, and/or the Florida Sheriff's Association.

If the resource is not tasked and coordinated through an association, the request for mutual aid will be routed from the SEOC to the Pinellas County EOC. PCEM or the EOC Logistics Section will coordinate fulfilling requests for mutual aid.

6.2 Resource Assessment and Inventories

It is critical that local jurisdictions are aware of the resources and capabilities that may be available as needed. A variety of processes are in place to assist with this.

Capabilities Assessment

Through the Tampa Bay UASI group, PCEM and partners have conducted regular stakeholder preparedness reviews to assess current capabilities, capability gaps, and the impacts to funding sources based upon targets identified in the HIRA. This assessment helps guide strategic planning processes to improve capabilities and address identified capability gaps.

Emergency Contracts

All departments and entities should maintain a list of contracts that may be utilized for disaster response and recovery. Within the County, emergency contracts are maintained by departments and by the Pinellas County Department of Administrative Services (PCDAS). Contracts must be reviewed and updated on a regular basis and should be in compliance with federal procurement guidance for disaster utilization.

Inventory Management

Agencies may use systems such as CityWorks, EMSupply, spreadsheets, or other datasets to track resources and capabilities year round.

PCEM maintains lists of resources and providers within WebEOC such as the local feeding network, faith based and other community partners that may be able to provide resources such as volunteers, shelter, feeding capabilities, and crisis counseling. Regional partners may maintain resources that can be deployed within the region and assists with gathering information on additional resources partners may have.

6.3 Resource Requests

When activated, the EOC Logistics Section may receive resource requests from partner entities via WebEOC, email, phone, 800 MHz radio, satellite phone or fax. The agency requesting the resource must provide the following:

- Contact information
- Requestor name
- Needed resource
- Amount needed
- Time and date needed
- Reason the item is requested
- The mission the resource will be used to complete

Additional resource information may be needed for specialized resources (i.e. in the case of a generator, size, fuel type, fuel amount, connection cables, refueling and maintenance services, etc.). Resource requests must be logged into the tracking system at the County and state level as appropriate. WebEOC will be utilized unless it is not functional, then a paper system will be implemented.

Once a request is received by the EOC Logistics Section, a tracking number will be assigned. Resource sourcing will be attempted locally. If it cannot be filled locally, the request will be sent to the SEOC. The EOC Resource Request Flow Chart can be found as *Figure 59*.

6.4 Field Sites

As part of emergency response and recovery, field sites may be established to support various operations. The locations of the sites are submitted to FDEM and maintained in WebEOC and/or other databases as appropriate and updated regularly.

Bases and Camps

A base is the location where primary logistics functions are coordinated, and there is generally only one incident base per incident (which may be collocated with an incident command post). A camp is a location where food, water, rest, and sanitary services are provided to personnel working the incident. Bases and camps may be established as required by the incident and coordinated by the EOC Logistics Section.

County Staging Areas (CSAs)

A CSA is a designated location to coordinate temporary staging of incident resources for later transfer to support incident operations. Logistics staff are assigned to a CSA to coordinate and track resources, and to manage the CSA (including transportation, procurement, supply, and inventory review) and reporting back to the EOC Logistics Section.

PCEM has identified primary and alternate CSA locations to include field sites and secure warehouse space. FDEM will be notified of when the County activates the CSA to receive shipments by the Logistics Section.

Points of Distribution (PODs)

PODs may be established by Pinellas County and/or municipalities to provide sites where residents can obtain emergency relief supplies until infrastructure and supply chains become operational again. The locations of PODs and how many open is determined based on the scope and scale of the disaster. Damage Assessment personnel are designated to assess the sites after an event to determine if the location is adequate for utilization. Pinellas County and municipal partners have identified locations where PODs may be established.

Volunteer Reception Centers (VRCs) and Donation Centers

A VRC may be established to coordinate the management of spontaneous volunteers after a disaster. The VRC assists in the registration, screening, training, assignment, and tracking of spontaneous volunteers to ensure a well-organized utilization of volunteers

PCEM has a contract for a VRC site in Largo as our primary location. The VRC is coordinated by ESF # 15 Volunteers and Donations.

A donation center may be established to receive and process solicited and unsolicited goods donated after a disaster. Donations of money or items specific to the needs after the disaster are preferred. Coordination with community agencies to receive and process donations is coordinated through ESF#15 Volunteers and Donations.

Warehouses

As the needs of the operation are identified, it may be necessary to provide space to warehouse supplies and equipment. A tent to accommodate short-term storage of resources at the CSA may be provided as a temporary warehouse or nearby County surplus warehouse space may be available to use.

PCEM maintains a hurricane rated warehouse year-round for supplies to support shelter, POD, VRC and other operations. PCEM coordinates with PCSB, Fleet and other entities to assist with storage and maintenance of additional items. Other entities that maintain warehouse operations should develop inventory and maintenance plans. The PCEM Readiness, Resilience and Resources program is responsible for the blue sky operations of warehouses and during activations it falls under the EOC Logistics Section and ESF #7 Logistics.

6.5 Standard and Emergency Procurement

Purchasing and procurement, both during normal and emergency situations, is managed pursuant to *§Part I, Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2 – Purchasing Pinellas County Code* and the *PCDAS Purchasing Policy and Procedure Manual*, which may be updated periodically and can be found on Pinellas County’s website:

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/purchase/guide.htm>.

6.6 Financial Management

The Pinellas County Office of Management and Budget (PCOMB) is responsible for financial management before, during, and after a disaster. During an emergency, normal fiscal administrative functions and regulations may need to be temporarily modified or suspended to support emergency operations. In general, the BCC generally executes funding agreements with other legal entities, however some authorities and responsibilities have been delegated to the County Administrator. Pinellas County may qualify for reimbursement of certain emergency costs from state and federal disaster recovery programs under emergency declarations and may also collect damages from insurance carriers. The EOC Finance and Administration Section is designed to assist with oversight for the incident.

Pinellas County departments should only incur emergency expenditures in accordance with governing purchasing and acquisition procedures. Each agency will keep an updated inventory of its personnel, facilities, equipment and contract resources as part of their policies, procedures, and instructions. Additionally, agencies with identified responsibilities in this plan are responsible for budgeting, allocating and procuring disaster-required material and equipment to accomplish those duties.

All Pinellas County departments and agencies are required to develop emergency procedures for fiscal recordkeeping, and ensuring the safety of cash, checks, and other valuable documents/records. All organizations should designate personnel to be responsible for documentation of all disaster operations and expenditures. It is crucial that Pinellas County and municipalities establish sound fiscal policies and expenditure tracking mechanisms. PCOMB may provide guidance to other entities on best practices as able, as applicable.

All personnel and payroll clerks must capture and document costs incurred because of a disaster, and damages must be assessed and documented. While some disaster costs may be eligible for reimbursement, any remaining costs must be absorbed by the organization. For County departments under the General Fund, costs that are not reimbursed will be borne by the department with uninsured damages paid from the General Fund. County departments must internally account for all costs to include damages and may submit budget amendments for consideration when costs will degrade operations significantly.

PCOMB may provide periodic training sessions concerning guidelines and processes involving state and federal disaster assistance or provide information on training opportunities. PCOMB and PCEM will coordinate this training for all concerned agencies

and Departments, as well as provide training to County and municipal personnel on relevant information concerning the various funding programs under FDEM.

Insurance

Pinellas County is self-insured for property, worker's compensation, and general and automotive liability. Federal rules require insurance coverage in the post-disaster phase pursuant to §44, Subpart I, CFR. PCDAS will provide information on insurance coverage. All Departments will provide the necessary warranty and loss information in order to qualify for insurance coverage or Public Assistance (PA) funding, if it is made available. All entities should review their insurance policies to determine what is appropriate for them.

Funding Sources

PCEM has an approved annual budget to cover the administration of programs and maintenance of the EOC. PCEM receives additional state and federal grants for annually facilitating certain programs. These funds are for operating expenditures and are not normally used to supplement response or recovery costs and are budgeted, allocated, and distributed using standard County fiscal practices.

Federal, state, and other agencies recognize the financial complications of administering an emergency management program and the hardship local governments experience during disasters. As such, there are various types of financial programs available to Pinellas County response agencies. A table of the most frequent financial programs used in emergency management can be found as *Table 4: Emergency Management and Disaster Financial Programs*.

All records relating to the allocation and disbursement of funds pertaining to activities and elements covered in this plan must be maintained in compliance with the legal requirements and in accordance with funding agreements.

7 RECOVERY

The transition from response to recovery may not be clear, and response and recovery activities may overlap at times. There is a significant difference between the initial recovery operations (often referred to as short-term recover), and the long-term recovery and redevelopment actions which may last for many years. Depending on the incident, some areas of the county may be in a continued response phase, while other areas begin short term and long term recovery. Response and recovery can best be understood as a varying continuum, rather than as separate, independent efforts. A graphic depiction of the response and recovery continuum can be found as *Figure 60*.

Resilient and sustainable recovery encompasses more than the restoration of a community's physical structures to pre-disaster conditions. Through effective coordination of partners and resources, communities can ensure the continuity of services and support to meet the needs of affected community members who have experienced the hardships of financial, emotional, and/or physical impacts of devastating disasters.

The recovery phase includes a thorough focus on the timely restoration, strengthening and revitalization of infrastructure, housing and a sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident. The EOC will have a Recovery Branch Director, who will assist with coordination of activities that may transition into recovery. As disaster response transitions to recovery, a Recovery Manager will be appointed by the County Administrator to be responsible for coordinating recovery activities in the county with partner agencies to address short and long term recovery priorities until the county has fully recovered. As needed, ESFs will transition to RSFs, (*Figure 61*) and the EOC will demobilize, and continuation of recovery operations will transition. A Recovery Task Force (RTF) may also be implemented to assist with recovery issues. If a location is needed for the RTF to operate from a location, it will be identified as the Recovery Coordination Center (RCC).

The *National Disaster Recovery Framework* defines the phases of recovery, as follows:

Short-Term Recovery

This is defined as “any activity that will return vital life-support systems and critical infrastructure to minimum operating standards. This stage normally ranges from a few days after a disaster to six months after the disasters. Examples of short-term recovery include debris removal, temporary re-location of displaced residents, immediate restoration of services and temporary financial assistance. These activities are coordinated through the EOC by the ESFs.

Intermediate Recovery

During this stage the most vital services have been restored, but the community is not completely back to normal. This period usually ranges from months to years after the disasters. During this stage, large portions of the population may still be living in temporary housing and critical infrastructure has been partially restored. With the transition to this phase, the opening of a RCC may be necessary and ESFs will start to transition to RSFs.

Long-Term Recovery

During this stage, the County is in the process of returning to normal and involves the reconstruction of damaged and destroyed social and economic environments. Activities during the long-term recovery phase focus on more permanent, sustainable solutions; reconstruction of the community’s destroyed or damaged physical features; a return to viability through the repair or restoration of the social, economic and political processes, institutions and relationships damaged by the disaster; and exploitation of opportunities to build back better, stronger and smarter. A disaster, while tragic, also presents an opportunity for strengthening communities and rebuilding communities to be more disaster resilient. This phase may be guided by the *PDRP* which would be activated by the County Administrator, as determined necessary.

7.1 Recovery Coordination

As in all phases of emergency management, operational coordination and stakeholder collaboration is critical to supporting successful recovery operations. The Recovery Director or designee will coordinate recovery activities with municipalities and the state, including the methods and tactics for addressing the County's short term and long term recovery priorities.

Joint Field Offices (JFOs)

The Federal Coordinating Officer and/or State Coordinating Officer may establish a temporary JFOs within a disaster area to coordinate the disaster relief and emergency response efforts. The JFOs will be staffed with representatives from state and/or federal agencies having emergency responsibilities and may be co-located with other resources. The Recovery Manager will coordinate efforts with JFOs as necessary.

Municipal, County, and State Coordination

Communication and coordination of recovery activities with municipalities, County departments, and state agencies is conducted through many of the operational coordination methods described in *Section 5.1 – Operational Coordination*.

Recovery Task Force (RTF)

A RTF comprised of representatives from County departments and other partners will work to continue operational initiatives until the county has fully recovered. The RTF will coordinate with the Recovery Manager to oversee the transition from ESFs in the EOC to RSFs in the RCC.

Recovery Support Functions (RSFs)

Pinellas County will transition to an RSF structure as necessary to coordinate emergency recovery roles and functions. The RSF coordinating structure was developed to be scalable and adaptable to meet different levels and types of needs, as well as specific recovery requirements of large to catastrophic incidents.

The RSF chart can be found as *Figure 61*.

- RSF – Community Impacts and Redevelopment
- RSF – Economic and Business
- RSF – Health and Social Services
- RSF – Housing
- RSF – Infrastructure
- RSF – Natural and Cultural Resources
- RSF – Planning
- RSF – Public Information

7.2 Declared and Undeclared Disasters

Disaster declarations are based upon the magnitude or anticipated magnitude of an incident. Declarations may be made pre-incident, such as for major hurricanes or to cover

anticipated costs such as protective measures, or can be made post incident once initial estimates of costs or impacts have been collected.

Presidential Disaster Declarations

The Governor may request a Presidential Emergency or Disaster Declaration under Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), through FEMA, if an incident is anticipated to exceed local and state capabilities⁴⁵. Such declarations open the way for federal resources including PA funding to be made available to assist in dealing with the emergency or major disaster involved. The Stafford Act supplements state and local resources for disaster relief and recovery.

After the President's declaration, the Governor and FEMA Regional Director enter into a federal/state agreement which describes how federal disaster assistance will be made available. The agreement identifies and specifies:

- Areas which are eligible for assistance.
- Division of costs among the federal, state and local governments.
- Time period in which assistance will be made available; and
- Any other conditions for receiving assistance.

When the President issues a disaster declaration, FDEM will notify the County. The PCEM Director or designee will notify all affected municipalities and all other possible applicants who may be eligible for federal assistance.

Undeclared Disasters

The County will implement all necessary response and recovery activities and will seek state and federal assistance as applicable. Pinellas County may also be eligible for funds for qualifying emergency-related activities when no other source of federal, state, or local disaster funds available through funding sources identified in *Table 4* and pursuant to §290.44 FSS.

Local disaster assistance efforts through the County, municipalities, and community organizations would be made available to impacted residents.

7.3 Damage and Situational Assessment

Damage and situational assessment provides decision makers with decision-relevant information regarding the nature and extent of the hazard, any cascading effects, and the status of the response. This assessment is essential to reliable situational awareness and developing a common operating picture, and allows response and recovery leadership to make data-driven decisions on operational priorities and planning directions.

PCDAS is the primary responsible organization for coordinating damage assessment within the county. The County or Municipal Building Official is the responsible party for commercial condemnations within their respective boundaries pursuant to §Part I,

⁴⁵ The declaration process is defined by *CFR Title 44, Chapter I, Subchapter D, Part 206, Subpart B*.

Chapter 22, Article V. – Commercial, Business and Industrial Minimum Standards Code.
The County or Municipal Housing Official has the responsibility for residential condemnations within their respective boundaries pursuant to *§Part I, Chapter 22, Article VI. – Housing Code.*

Criteria

Damages to homes and businesses are broken down into five categories based upon FEMA guidelines. Additional information and guidance on damage assessment criteria can be found in the latest version of FEMA's *Preliminary Damage Assessment Guide*: <https://www.fema.gov/disasters/preliminary-damage-assessment-reports/guide>.

Minor

Repairable, non-structural damage to a home or damage from flood waters when the waterline is 18 inches or below in a conventionally built home or when the waterline is in the floor system of a manufactured home.

Destroyed

Significant enough damage that the home is deemed a total loss.

Major

Structural damage or other significant damage that requires extensive repairs or damage from flood waters when the waterline is 18 inches or above in a conventionally built home or when the waterline enters the living space of a manufactured home.

Affected

Conventionally built homes that have minimal cosmetic damage to their exteriors and/or interiors.

Inaccessible

For manufactured and conventionally built homes, inaccessible residences are those in which damage to the home cannot be visually verified because of disaster-related loss of access.

Size-Up

Size-up information is collected as soon as conditions permit from local observations in affected areas. Size-up helps determine the scope and scale of impact to the county after an incident, provides information for coordinating and prioritizing emergency response and recovery efforts, and allows officials to set operational priorities and allocate resources appropriately.

Fire districts are responsible for collecting and reporting size-up information within their jurisdictions and any additional communities specifically covered under contract utilizing the FEMA residential damage criteria. The size-up will begin as soon as possible, when it is safe for fire district personnel to observe impacted areas. Ideally, the size-up will be completed within the first 24 hours after an incident impact.

For widespread damage, fire districts will use the Storm Impressions application to assess, collect, and communicate impact information to the EOC Damage Assessment Unit and EOC GIS Unit. For more localized incidents, municipalities and County staff may use the ArcGIS Collector application. Additionally, the EOC Public Information Office and/or EOC Planning Section will monitor community reports from social media, CIC, and other sources to incorporate into planning conversations.

The EOC Damage Assessment Unit and EOC GIS Unit will produce a general assessment based on area observations to quantify the extent of damage in the county. Initial reports from fire districts, municipal EOCs, community reported damage, and real-time observations during local response operations will be compiled by to determine the areas most affected.

Initial Damage Assessment (IDA)

There are two components to IDA, the residential damage assessment for Individual Assistance (IA) and operating costs and infrastructure damages for PA.

Residential Damage Assessment

The residential damage assessment serves to assess damages to residential structures in the county. Information collected will be used to confirm assistance to individuals, provide the County with a detailed indication of possible recovery needs, and generate data for substantial damage assessments and tax roll updates. Residential damage assessment operations may not start immediately after the size-up and may begin in one area of the county before another as accessibility and safety factors dictate.

PCDAS, leading the EOC Damage Assessment Unit, is responsible for coordinating residential damage assessment operations in unincorporated areas of the county. Pinellas County Building and Development Review Services (PCBDRS) and the Pinellas County Property Appraiser's Office (PCPAO) will supply teams for assignment to unincorporated areas of the county, within municipalities under contract with PCBDRS, and in support of municipal efforts as necessary. Municipalities have primary responsibility for conducting residential damage assessment operations within their respective boundaries, and the EOC Damage Assessment Unit will coordinate municipal assistance as necessary. County and municipal teams will use the ArcGIS Collector application to assess, collect, and communicate damage assessment information to the EOC Damage Assessment Unit and EOC GIS Unit.

The EOC Damage Assessment Unit, through PCEM, will submit a report to FDEM with residential damage counts and other detailed information (such as address, degree of damage, photographs, etc.) as required.

Infrastructure Damage and Operating Cost Assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to track, assess, capture, and report estimates of the cost of emergency and non-emergency operating costs and infrastructure damages related to a disaster impact and response. This process will help define county impacts, and will support Pinellas County's inclusion in any requests for a disaster declaration.

PCDAS, leading the EOC Damage Assessment Unit, is responsible for coordinating collection and compilation of information, and submitting reports to FDEM. This includes:

- Information from non-BCC Pinellas County agencies and appointing authorities;
- Information from Private Non-Profit (PNP) agencies, except for hospitals and nursing homes, which are the responsibility of FDOH.

PCDAS, in coordination with PCOMB, is responsible for consolidating all PA-related information for County departments and County facility damages. Municipalities are responsible for collecting and reporting PA IDA information for their jurisdiction. FDOH is responsible for collecting and reporting IDA information relating to hospitals and nursing homes. PCDAS, through PCEM, will produce a report to submit to FDEM as appropriate.

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment (JPDA)

The JPDA is a coordinated effort by local, state, and federal authorities to validate damage data previously identified by state and local authorities to inform disaster declaration requests and federal disaster grant determinations. PCEM will submit initial damage assessment information and the request for a JPDA to FDEM through WebEOC or other methods as required.

The EOC Damage Assessment Unit Leader will be responsible for coordinating JPDA efforts, transportation, and teams within the county. These teams will be assigned to accompany FDEM and/or FEMA representatives on their visits into the damaged areas and may include the following agencies or organizations:

- Municipalities
- PCBDRS
- PCDAS
- PCPAO
- PCPW
- PCSB

7.4 Debris Management

PCPW is the lead agency for debris management, and will ensure a coordinated response which achieves removal, storage, reduction and final disposition of debris deposited along or immediately adjacent to public rights-of-way (ROW) in the unincorporated areas of the county. Expeditious debris removal and disposal actions will mitigate the threat to the health, safety, and welfare of Pinellas County residents. Debris management operations shall be consistent with §403.7071 FSS and definitions consistent with §403.703 FSS.

Additional information about Pinellas County's debris management program can be found in PCPW's *Debris Management Plan*.

Authorities and Legal Considerations

Handling and removal of lost or abandoned property, including motor vehicles and vessels, will follow the procedures outlined by §705.103 FSS.

Automobiles and Trailers

Removal of automobiles and trailers is the responsibility of the owner. Mobile home owners, when vacating the premises, are responsible for removing any debris or other property left on the lot pursuant to §723.023(5) FSS.

Derelict Vessels and Waterway Hazards

Removal of boats and vessels creating navigational hazards are the responsibility of the owner. Derelict vessels may be relocated or removed in accordance with §823.11 FSS and §376.15 FSS. Removal of other navigational hazards deposited in the waterways as a result of the qualifying incident will be the responsibility of the agency responsible for maintaining the waterway.

Homeowners Associations and Gated Communities

Removal of debris from the roadways to create an emergency path of travel within a homeowners association or gated community is an expense that may be eligible for reimbursement if the County has legal authority to perform the work.

Eligible work will only include removal of the debris from the roadway (as known as the first push) and not debris collection or disposal. Since debris collection and disposal from homeowners associations and gated communities is not a reimbursable expense, the County will perform these operations within these types of communities. These communities must arrange for their own debris collection and disposal, or move the debris to the nearest ROW for collection (within the timeframe that collection activities are taking place) and at their own expense.

Homeowners associations, cooperative associations, and condominium associations may exercise emergency powers, including taking action to contract for the removal of debris, pursuant to §720.316 FSS, §719.128 FSS, and §718.1265 FSS respectively.

Private Property

Removal of debris from private property is responsibility of the property owner. However, the County may, on a case by case basis, remove debris from private property to address threats to public health and safety. The process for accessing and removing any debris from private property shall be consistent with *§Part I, Chapter 22, Article VI, Division 2 PCC*. A separate debris contractor will be utilized for any debris removal from private property.

In order to submit any debris removal from private property for potential reimbursement, the operations must be approved by FEMA and appropriate documents submitted. Failure to do so or collection of ineligible debris may result in the costs incurred from the operation being ineligible for reimbursement.

Clearance and Collection Priorities

The initial response, known as the first push, involves the opening of primary and secondary roads by moving debris to the road shoulder. The first push aims to clear

access routes to restore or accelerate the movement of emergency operations and services. A map of clearance and collection priorities can be found as *Figure 62*.

Following the initial response and once the necessary infrastructure has been established, operations will transition to debris collection and disposal.

Contract Administration

PCPW is responsible for managing and directing emergency debris management contracts for the County. The County outsources debris collection and debris monitoring through contractors prior to an incident. Contracts will be compliant with Pinellas County ordinances and policies, and will also comply with the requirements set forth in the latest versions of FEMA's *Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG)*⁴⁶ and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) *Emergency Relief Manual*⁴⁷.

The contracted services for debris management allow for municipalities within Pinellas County to participate in the debris management contracts for scope of services and corresponding pricing through an Interlocal agreement. However, municipalities must contract directly with the selected contractor(s) for services.

The collection contract is for the collection, storage, processing, disposal, and recycling of debris generated by a disaster. The primary collection of disaster generated debris will be from public property, public access roadways, and ROW within the unincorporated areas of Pinellas County.

The monitoring contract requires the contractor to provide an adequate number of professionals and qualified personnel to monitor debris loading sites and debris management sites along with associated roving debris monitors. The contractor will be required to increase its staffing depending on the severity of the debris generating incident and to provide its staff with all tools, equipment, and supplies necessary to perform assigned tasks.

Environmental Considerations

Environmentally sensitive and protected areas such as wetlands, habitats, and historical areas are prohibited from use as debris management sites. Sensitive areas in proximity to a debris staging site will be avoided and restricted to the extent possible to protect them from adverse impact. Debris management operations will comply with all requirements of pertinent environmental standards.

During the debris reduction and removal process at the debris management locations, environmental monitoring will be conducted for each of the sites to ensure no long-term environmental contamination remains.

⁴⁶ PAPPG: <https://www.fema.gov/assistance/public/policy-guidance-fact-sheets>

⁴⁷ FHWA Emergency Relief Manual: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/reports/erm/er.pdf>

Interagency Coordination

Debris management is a complex operation that requires extensive interagency operational coordination, such as the following:

- Abandoned vehicles and vessels blocking roadways requires the coordination of law enforcement and debris management personnel.
- Clearing of roadways requires coordination between PCPW, the Florida Department of Transportation, and municipalities.
- Contract administration between County departments, municipalities, and NGOs.
- Disposal of special debris requires coordination between County departments, municipalities, DEP, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), and NGOs.
- Public information dissemination about safe community debris collection and disposal efforts between County departments, municipalities, and NGOs.
- Waterway debris removal requires the coordination of agencies responsible for the waterway or hazard removal, including United States Coast Guard, ACE, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and PCPW.

PCPW serves as the overall agency responsible for coordinating interagency debris removal and planning with other agencies. PCOMB serves as the overall agency responsible for coordinating state and federal reimbursements.

Operating Process and Locations

Collection

PCPW will coordinate debris removal and disposal operations for all debris deposited along or immediately adjacent to public ROW and on public property in all unincorporated portions of the county. Debris segregation and sorting will be conducted at street/road level to the maximum amount practical.

Collection operations involve the removal and disposal of debris by County and private contractor crews. During the recovery phase, debris collection, storage, reduction, and disposal is the focus. Residents must bring the debris to the ROW or curb to be eligible for removal at public expense.

PCPW may designate citizen debris drop off sites, and these will be determined on an as needed basis depending on the size and scope of the incident. Citizen drop off sites will only be used to drop off vegetative debris by citizens not wishing to wait for crews to remove the debris from their roadway. These drop-off sites greatly improve efficiency by consolidating large amounts of vegetative debris for hauling to the nearest debris management site.

Debris monitoring personnel will remain with their assigned crews at all times that the crews are collecting and hauling debris and are there to ensure that all debris collected is eligible disaster debris and that all debris is properly documented. All damage that is caused during the collection process shall be documented.

Reduction

Grinding and/or chipping operations are the preferred method of reduction for vegetative debris to accomplish environmental resource conservation through recycle/salvage of wood chips. Although this operation is preferred for environmental purposes, it is the most time consuming and costly reduction operation due to material handling requirements. Chips will be loaded out and hauled to a final disposal site as quickly as possible to reduce the threat of a fire conflagration. All appropriate fire protection measures will be established and maintained in accordance with the site management plan and site safety plan.

A burn permit is required before any burn operations begin at the debris sites. The County currently has not applied for any burn permits for debris management operations and will apply for applicable burn permits if necessary. Ash will later be disposed of by land spreading or by mixing it in with landfill cover, transporting to a suitable landfill, or by using agricultural recycling techniques as appropriate.

Disposal

The debris management disposal crews shall dispose of all eligible debris, reduced debris and other products of the debris management process in accordance with all applicable laws, standards, and regulations. A final disposal site, such as one of the sites listed below, will be selected following the occurrence of an incident. This will allow for the transportation and disposal of debris to be as cost effective as possible.

Locations

Preplanned locations (subject to change as needed to best fit the operation) for the debris management and collection process include the following:

- Vegetative Debris Drop Off – Ulmerton Road/119th St. N
- Debris Management Staging and Storing – I-275/Roosevelt Blvd.
- Debris Management Staging and Storing – East Lake Road/Keystone Road
- Debris Management Staging and Storing – 10901 28th St. N., St. Petersburg

Special Debris Handling

Animal Bodies

Animal owners will be responsible for the disposal of their deceased animals in accordance with §823.041 FSS. However, if there are a large number of animals affected, it may be necessary to assist in the disposal of the bodies to protect public health and safety, such as rapid transportation to a landfill for burial/disposal.

Commercial Debris

Debris from commercial sources is not reimbursable and therefore will not be collected. Commercial properties will not be allowed to place their disaster debris on the ROW and must arrange for debris removal through private contractors.

Construction and Demolition Debris

Damaged structures are the primary source of construction and demolition debris material. This may include building construction materials and the building contents such as office equipment and personal property.

The collection contractor will be responsible for collecting and disposing of debris that was generated by the disaster and was deposited on public use areas. Construction and demolition debris materials will be separated where feasible then taken to an approved site to maximize recycling opportunities and reduce disposal costs. Hazardous materials will be separated and disposed of appropriately.

Hazardous Limbs, Stumps, and Trees

Removal of hazardous limbs can be conducted by the collection contractor or through force account labor. The scope of work needed to remove the immediate threat prior to removal will be defined by the remover. The contract monitor will be responsible for documenting the hazard with descriptions and photographs, and obtaining an address with Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates. Guidelines for a limb to qualify as hazardous may include:

- It is located on public property;
- It is greater than two inches in diameter at the point of breakage, and;
- It is still hanging and threatening a public use area (such as a sidewalk).

Only the minimal amount of work necessary to remove the hazard will be authorized by the County, and the debris resulting from hazardous limb removal will be treated as normal vegetative debris.

Handling of hazardous stumps will be conducted per the most current guidelines for hazardous stump extrication and removal. The removal and hauling of hazardous stumps is a unique process that requires specialized equipment, documentation, and costing. The contract monitoring firm will document all hazardous stumps using GPS coordinates, take photographs with the size of the stump clearly indicated, and note the address. Monitors will document eligible stumps on applicable forms as they are progressing through the first pass of debris pickup. As identified and directed by the County, the debris collection contractor shall remove all hazardous stumps that pose a threat to life, public health and safety, and haul each stump to the staging site. The County and the debris collection contractor shall inspect each stump and document it as to the appropriate category of size.

Removal of hazardous trees can be conducted by the collection contractor or through force account labor. A tree qualifies as hazardous if it is greater than six inches in diameter at breast height, the tree's condition was caused by the disaster and is an immediate threat to public health and safety, and has one of the following:

- It has more than 50% of the crown damaged or destroyed;
- It has a split trunk or broken branches that expose the heartwood;
- It has fallen or been uprooted within a public use area, and/or;

- It is leaning at an angle greater than 30°.

Trees that have less than half of the root-ball exposed will be cut flush at ground level. No additional work will be done to the remaining stump and the tree will be treated as normal vegetative debris.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

HHW may result from flooding conditions or other disasters and may mix with personal property debris. Cautionary efforts will need to be taken to segregate HHW from the debris stream at the curbside, since these materials require special handling and disposal.

Mixed Debris

Mixed Debris is a mixture of vegetative, construction, white goods, and/or other types of debris. This debris will be separated at the curb or at a debris management site so that the material can be properly disposed of.

Putrescible Waste

Putrescible waste is the residue remaining inside refrigerators and freezers as residents may not clean them out before placing them at the curb. The residue will need to be disposed of in an expeditious manner to avoid creating a health or public nuisance issue. The collection contractor may dispose of this type of putrescible waste at the County's solid waste facility after paying the appropriate tipping fee.

Sandbags

Sandbags used to protect against flooding should be treated and handled as a potential source of pollutants from flooded sewage treatment plants, pesticides, herbicides, chemicals and hydrocarbons. Sandbags will be kept separated from other debris to be tested and properly disposed of.

Sediments and Beach Sand

Sediment and sand from flooding incidents will be removed from ROWs by the collection contractor. Clean sand and sediment will be sifted and returned to its original origin when possible.

White Goods

White goods include refrigerators, stoves, and washing machines. The collection contractor will be responsible for collecting, storing, disposing, or recycling disaster generated white goods. Freon removal from cooling units will be conducted by a certified technician.

7.5 Disaster Assistance

IA is assistance to private citizens who sustained damage from the disaster incident and are uninsured or have insufficient insurance to cover their losses. This program is administered by the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) or through the

FEMA Individuals and Households Program. Additionally, there is assistance available for those individuals who have been unemployed because of the disaster.

Businesses that have been impacted by the disaster may be eligible for recovery loans from the SBA. An SBA declaration helps any eligible business regardless of the size of that business. PA is disaster assistance provided to public entities including state, County and municipal governments, Indian tribes and certain PNPs that provide an essential governmental type service.

Community Response and Unmet Needs

In the aftermath of a disaster, numerous government and community agencies will respond to assist the survivors with various needs.

The Pinellas County Human Services (PCHS) Director or designee will be the lead for coordination with FDEM and the State Community Response Coordinator. The PCHS Director or designee will coordinate with community providers, such as Recover Pinellas, for unmet needs case management for disaster survivors.

Recover Pinellas is a not for profit organization formed expressly to respond to unmet needs in Pinellas County. Members are community service organizations and will accept grants and donations and, through case workers, provide assistance to survivors who still have unmet needs. Pinellas County and these community service organizations active in the community work together to identify and refer residents with unmet needs to the appropriate services.

Other governmental and NGOs that may support the unmet needs process and community response includes, but is not limited to:

- 211 Tampa Bay
- ARC
- Area Agency on Aging
- Colleges and Universities
- Disability Achievement Center
- Faith Based Partners
- FDOH – Pinellas
- Feeding Tampa Bay
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities
- Juvenile Welfare Board
- Municipalities
- Salvation Army

Communication and coordination with municipalities on community response and unmet needs is conducted through many of the operational coordination methods described in *Section 5.1: Operational Coordination*. Additionally, assigning case management through a centralized body, such as Recover Pinellas, will help to avoid duplication of efforts or benefits.

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)

A DRC is a readily accessible facility or mobile office where applicants may go for information about disaster assistance programs or for questions related to a specific case. After a declared disaster, Pinellas County may set up DRCs to assist disaster victims in obtaining recovery information. The magnitude and severity of the disaster will determine the services performed at the DRC.

DRCs are established and run by state and County personnel with the support of federal agencies. Local agencies and programs may be asked to be present at a DRC for informational and/or referral services, including but not limited to:

- ARC
- FDOH – Pinellas
- Municipalities
- PCAS
- PCBDRS
- PCHCD
- PCHS
- PCPW
- Pinellas County Contractor Licensing Department (PCCLD)
- Pinellas County Economic Development (PCED)
- Pinellas County Utilities
- Salvation Army

The PCEM Director has the lead responsibility for coordinating DRC establishment with FDEM and maintaining a list of government facilities that may be utilized as a DRC location and meet site requirements. PCEM will submit requests for the establishment of a DRC through standard resource request procedures. PCEM will coordinate with municipal and County entities to support DRC operations, such as PCSO or municipal police departments for law enforcement and PCBTS for communications support. PCEM will also coordinate with state and federal agencies as necessary to ensure effective DRC operation.

Emergency Temporary Housing

In order to aid the economic and social recovery of Pinellas County residents, there must be an adequate supply of housing for residents to return to after a disaster. Oftentimes, short-term housing solutions become long-term housing for residents. If a disaster were to occur, it may displace residents from their homes and may subsequently rely on temporary housing options within the community, made available by the government or relocate outside of the county altogether.

The PCHCD Director or designee is tasked with being the local disaster housing coordinator. The Local Disaster Housing Task Force includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- County Administration

- County Attorney
- Forward Pinellas Director
- Municipal Representatives
- NGO Representatives
- PCBDRS Director
- PCCLD Director
- PCDas Director
- PCED Director
- PCEM Director
- PCHCD Director
- PCPW Director
- Private Sector Representatives
- Recovery Manager

§Part I, Chapter 34, Article II, Division 2 – Emergency Housing PCC provides guidance and flexibility in land development regulations to afford temporary housing options after a disaster that rendered the existing housing stock uninhabitable.

Upon the activation of a housing emergency declaration and subject to the conditions contained in Pinellas County Code, temporary housing may be provided by allowing and/or placing temporary housing units on various parcels of land. Incorporated and unincorporated areas may issue emergency measures to include but not limited to expediting permitting of minor repairs, extending permit review time, and/or issuing a temporary moratorium on reconstruction permits.

7.6 Public Assistance

FEMA PA is disaster assistance available for public entities including state, county and municipal governments and certain non-profit organizations that provide essential services, have sustained damages, or have incurred expenses related to the disaster that fall into one of the following categories

Category A: Debris Removal

Clearance of trees and woody debris; certain building wreckage; damage/destroyed building contents; sand, mud, silt and gravel; vehicles; and other disaster related materials deposited on public and, in very limited cases, private property

Category B: Emergency Protective Measures

Measures taken before, during and after a disaster to eliminate/reduce an immediate threat to live, public health or safety or to eliminate/reduce an immediate threat of significant damage to improved public and private property through cost-effective measures.

Category C: Roads and Bridges

Repair of roads, bridges and associated features such as shoulders, ditches, culverts, lighting and signs.

Category D: Water Control Facilities

Repair of drainage channels, pumping facilities, and some irrigation facilities. Repair of levees, dams and flood control channels may be eligible.

Category E: Buildings and Equipment

Repair or replacement of buildings, including their contents and systems; heavy equipment and vehicles.

Category F: Utilities

Repair of water treatment and delivery systems; power generation facilities and distribution facilities; sewage collection and treatment facilities and communications.

Category G: Parks and Recreation and Others

Repair and restoration of parks, playgrounds, pools, cemeteries, mass transit facilities and beaches. Also used for any facility work that may not be captured under Category A.

The federal share of these expenses cannot be less than 75 percent of eligible costs. Information about the PA program can be found on FEMA's website: <https://www.fema.gov/assistance/public>.

While specific federal requirements for PA change regularly, the basic process remains the same. Having procedures in place prior to a disaster allows for better record keeping, correct reimbursement for purchased goods and services and reduced time involved in attempts to recreate expenditures and costs after the fact. All County departments with disaster response responsibilities will have staff and internal procedures to ensure they meet the necessary requirements.

Concept of Operations

PCOMB is the lead for PA planning and coordination in the County. The PCOMB Director will identify a staff person as the lead for PA coordination when required. Pinellas County has contracted with a firm that specializes in PA to assist PCOMB and the County with the various accounting, files, administrative procedures and additional staff necessary to properly manage the PA process. The contractor will be supervised by PCOMB.

During and after disaster incidents, normal fiscal functions and regulations may need to be temporarily modified or suspended, in order to support emergency operations in a timely manner. Pinellas County may qualify for reimbursement of certain emergency costs from state and/or federal disaster recovery programs during or related to emergency declarations. Successful documentation of expenditures will maximize the reimbursements and the assistance that the County and its citizens will receive.

Individual agencies and municipalities are responsible for submitting their applications directly to FEMA under the PA Program. Agencies should begin a log of activities and set up a file for receipts, time sheets, logs, and other important papers. Maintenance records for facilities and equipment may be required to substantiate claims. Agencies performing recovery activities will use the State of Florida's financial and reimbursement procedures.

Departments responding to emergencies and disasters must first use their available resources. All departments are expected to maintain an inventory of all equipment, to include their disposition after the conclusion of the emergency. Items that are not accounted for, or that are not placed in the County inventory as an asset, will not be eligible for reimbursement.

PCOMB will provide departments with guidelines on federal reimbursement rules and required record keeping and will maintain a single cost center system where emergency disaster costs are identified and accumulated. PCOMB will coordinate with the Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court for any changes needed to normal finance rules. Generally, the federal and state governments do not reimburse expenditures that are not properly documented.

PCOMB establishes procedures for processing and maintaining records of expenditures and obligations for manpower, equipment and materials. All appropriate logs, formal records and file copies of all expenditures (including personnel timesheets) must be kept by all departments, agencies and municipalities, in order to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justification for reimbursement. Further, all federal public assistance funds are subject to state and federal audit. Guidance for maintaining records and requesting reimbursement is included in the documents prepared by FDEM.

Meetings

PCEM and PCOMB will coordinate with state and federal officials in scheduling PA meetings. PCOMB will provide administrative and technical assistance to applicants as required.

Applicant's Briefing

This applicant's briefing meeting is conducted by FDEM and FEMA PA representatives and will address application procedures, administrative requirements, funding, and program eligibility criteria and will occur after a major disaster has been declared. Meetings will be attended by the PCEM Director and PCOMB Director or designees as representatives for the County. Other applicants should send representatives as appropriate.

Recovery Scoping Meeting (Kick-off)

The recovery scoping meeting is conducted by the FEMA and provides a more detailed review of PA, including eligibility, documentation requirements, special considerations, and the needs of the applicants. The recovery scoping meeting must be publicly advertised. PCEM and PCOMB will coordinate with the state and federal liaisons to ensure all possible applicants are advised of the meetings. Meetings will be attended by the PCEM Director and PCOMB Director or designees as representatives for the County.

Pre-identified Agencies for Recovery Scoping Meeting and Federal Assistance

PCEM and PCOMB maintain databases of contacts, including those for potential PA application and updates. PCOMB maintains a shared site for partner agencies to access

information and updates. PCEM and PCOMB also pre-identify potential applications for the PA program by utilizing existing databases and partnerships, including County and municipal governments, other governmental bodies, and PNPs. Additionally, PCEM utilizes data from PCPAO, PCED, FDEM, FDOH, the Florida Department of Education, the United States Internal Revenue Service, and other governmental and NGO information to pre-identify potential applications for the PA program. After a disaster, PCEM utilizes this information along with impact assessment data to disseminate PA program information using systems described in *Section 5.7: Alert and Notification*.

A list of some of the pre-identified agencies can be found as *Table 1*.

8 MITIGATION

Pinellas County has a state and FEMA approved LMS, which expires on May 5, 2025. The PCEM Director acts as a member of the LMS Working Group. PCEM assists with the identification of mitigation activities across the county and identifies opportunities to leverage funding from a variety of sources to increase the resilience of the community.

PCEM engages with a variety of whole community partners year round that may provide support services to a community for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. Entities may include community feeding locations, community centers that may service as cooling centers or shelters, schools and universities, and homeless agencies that support the most vulnerable communities. Partners that provide critical infrastructure systems and services benefit from identifying where mitigation measures or building in back up and redundancy functionality may reduce the interruption of energy, communications, transportation and other CIKR functions.

As damage assessment is occurring, PCEM and the LMSWG will coordinate with partners to look for opportunities to include or increase mitigation either through FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) 404 or 406 mitigation monies.

In areas where structures have been declared destroyed and cannot rebuilt, PCEM works with the *PDRP* group to identify best future uses. For areas with substantial damage or requiring substantial improvements, the local flood plain managers and building officials will work to enforce the Special Flood Hazard Area for building up to current codes.

9 REFERENCES AND AUTHORITIES

This section identifies some of the references and authorities that are followed for disaster planning purposes but is not all inclusive.

9.1 Federal

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)
- Federal Executive Order 13407
- FEMA Preliminary Damage Assessment Guide

- FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG)
- FHWA Emergency Relief Manual
- Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973
- Homeland Security Act (Public Law 107-296, as amended, 6 USC §101 et seq.)
- Homeland Security Act of 2002
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 – Management of Domestic Incidents
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 – National Preparedness
- National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended, 42 USC §§ 5121 et seq.
- Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of (SARA) 1986
- Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), “Emergency Management and Assistance.”
- United States Code Title 8, Chapter 12, Subchapter II
- Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide (IAPPG), March 2019.
- Sandy Recovery Improvement Act, January 2013.
- National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF), June 2016.
- National Mitigation Framework, June 2016.
- JP 3-27, Homeland Defense, 10 April 2018
- JP 3-28, Defense Support of Civil Authorities, 29 October 2018
- Individual Assistance Declarations Factors Final Guidance, June 2019.

9.2 State

- State of Florida CEMP and ESF Appendices
- State of Florida Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Florida Fire Chief’s Association Statewide Emergency Response Plan
- Field Operations Guide – Florida’s Approach to All Hazards Incident Management, 2012 – Appendix C: Florida National Guard
- Medical Examiner’s Office – State of Florida District Six (6) Mass Fatality Plan
- Florida Coastal Pollutant Spill Plan
- Florida Department of Health in Pinellas – Emergency Operations Plan
- Florida Department of Health in Pinellas – Special Needs Shelter Plan
- Florida Department of Transportation District Seven Critical Bridges Emergency Response Plan
- Florida Department of Transportation District Seven Debris Management Plan
- Florida Department of Transportation District Seven Emergency Shoulder Use Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- Florida Fire Chief’s Association Statewide Emergency Response Plan
- Florida Hazardous Materials Operations Guide
- Florida Law 77-642, amended by Florida Law 95-474

- Florida State Statutes
 - §7.52 FSS – *County Boundaries*
 - §119.071(5)(j) FSS – *Public Records*
 - §252 FSS – *Emergency Management*
 - §290.44 FSS – *Urban Development*
 - §376.15 FSS – *Pollutant Discharge Prevention and Removal*
 - §381.0011(7) FSS – *Public Health: General Provisions*
 - §400 FSS – *Nursing Homes and Related Health Care Facilities*
 - §403 FSS – *Environmental Control*
 - §705.103 FSS – *Lost or Abandoned Property*
 - §718.1265 FSS – *Condominiums*
 - §719.128 FSS – *Cooperatives*
 - §720.316 FSS – *Homeowners' Associations*
 - §723.023(5) FSS – *Mobile Home Park Lot Tenancies*
 - §823 FSS – *Public Nuisances*
 - §870.42 FSS – *Affrays; Riots; Routs; Unlawful Assemblies*

9.3 County

- Pinellas County Code
 - Article II §2.04(k)
 - §Part I, Chapter 2, Article V, Division 2 – Purchasing Pinellas County Code
 - §Part I, Chapter 22, Article VI, Division 2 – Pinellas County Code
 - §Part I, Chapter 34, Article II, Division 2 – Emergency Housing Pinellas County Code
 - §Chapter 58, Article XV, Division 1, Section 58-501
- CEMP Volume II – Hazard Specific Plans
- CEMP Volume III – Emergency Support Functions
- CEMP Volume IV – Operational Guides

9.4 Mutual Aid, MOA/MOUs, and Other Agreements

- Pinellas County and City of Clearwater – ILA
- Pinellas County and City of Dunedin – ILA
- Pinellas County and Debris Collection/Removal Contractors – Service Agreements
- Pinellas County and Debris Monitoring Contractors – Contract
- Pinellas County and Disaster Recovery Contractors – Service Agreements
- Pinellas County and Emergency Bases and Camps – Service Agreement
- Pinellas County and Emergency Food Service Vendors – Service Agreements
- Pinellas County and Emergency Temporary Personnel – Service Agreement
- Pinellas County and FDEM – MOA (State-Owned Generators)
- Pinellas County and FDEM – MOU (Communications Grant Program)
- Pinellas County and FDEM, Alert Florida MOA
- Pinellas County and FDEM, WebEOC
- Pinellas County and FEMA, IPAWS-OPEN MOA

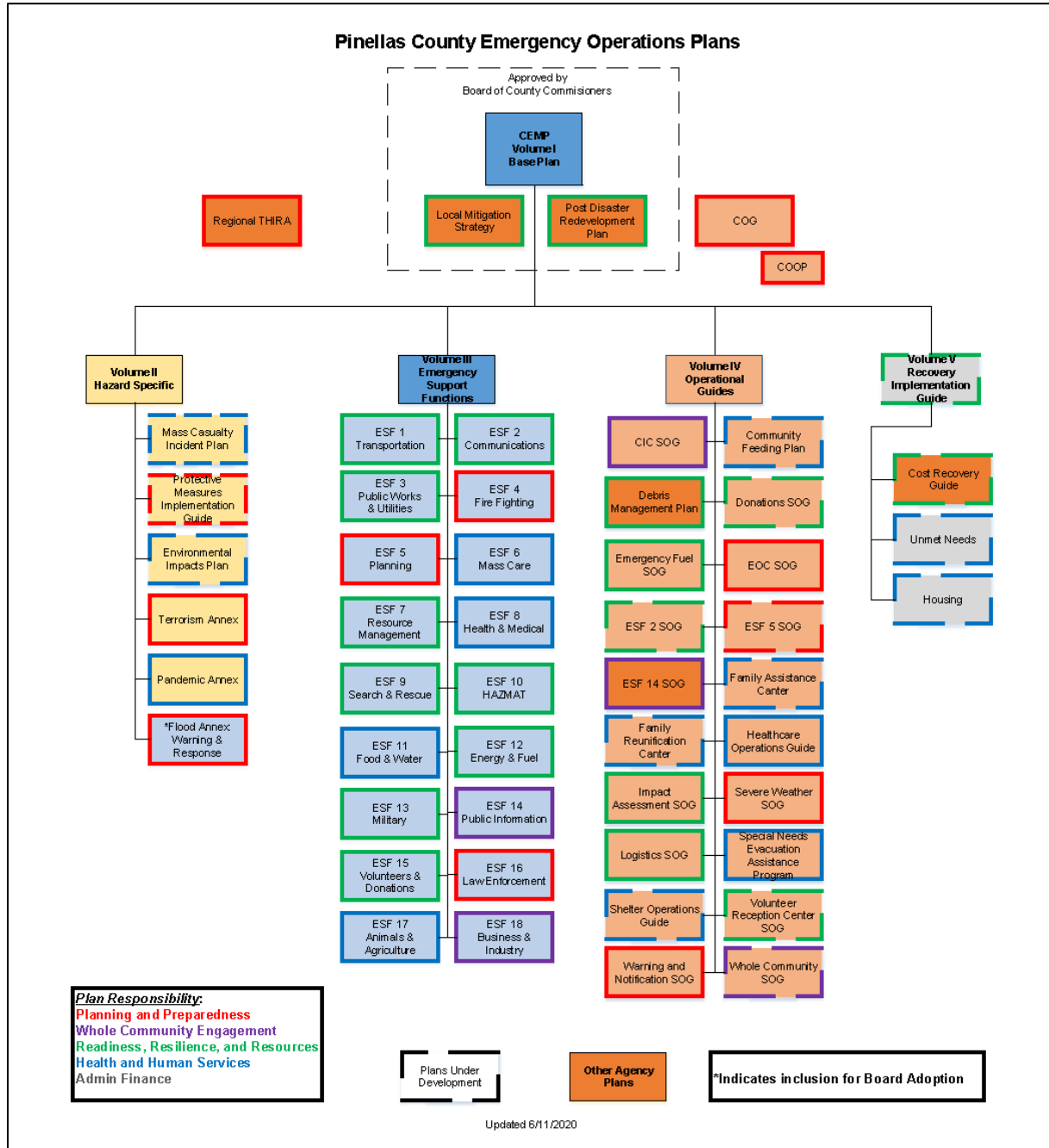
- Pinellas County and Foreign Language Interpretation Services – Contract
- Pinellas County and Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County – MOA
- Pinellas County and Neighborly Care Network, Inc. – Service Agreement
- Pinellas County and PCSB – ILA (Sheltering)
- Pinellas County and PCSB – MOU (Shelter Retrofitting)
- Pinellas County and Pinellas County Technical College – ILA
- Pinellas County and R' Club Child Care, Inc. – Service Agreement
- Pinellas County and St. Petersburg College – MOA (Use of Locations)
- Pinellas County and United States Coast Guard – MOA (Parking/Storage)
- Pinellas County and Unmanned Aerial Drones – Contract
- Pinellas County Fire Districts – Mutual Aid Agreement
- Pinellas County Law Enforcement Agencies – Mutual Aid Agreement
- Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement

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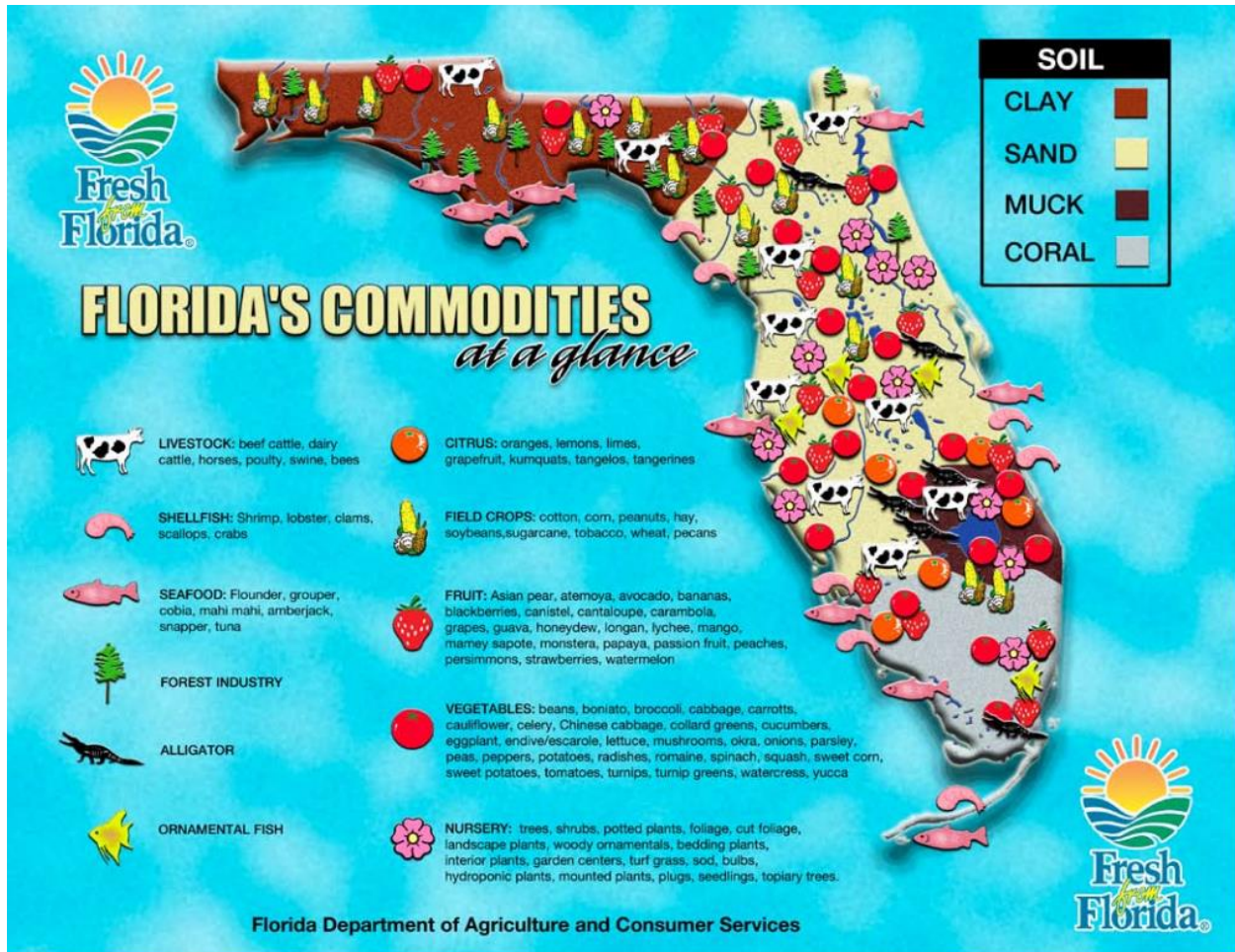
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Figure 1: Chart of Emergency Operations Plans



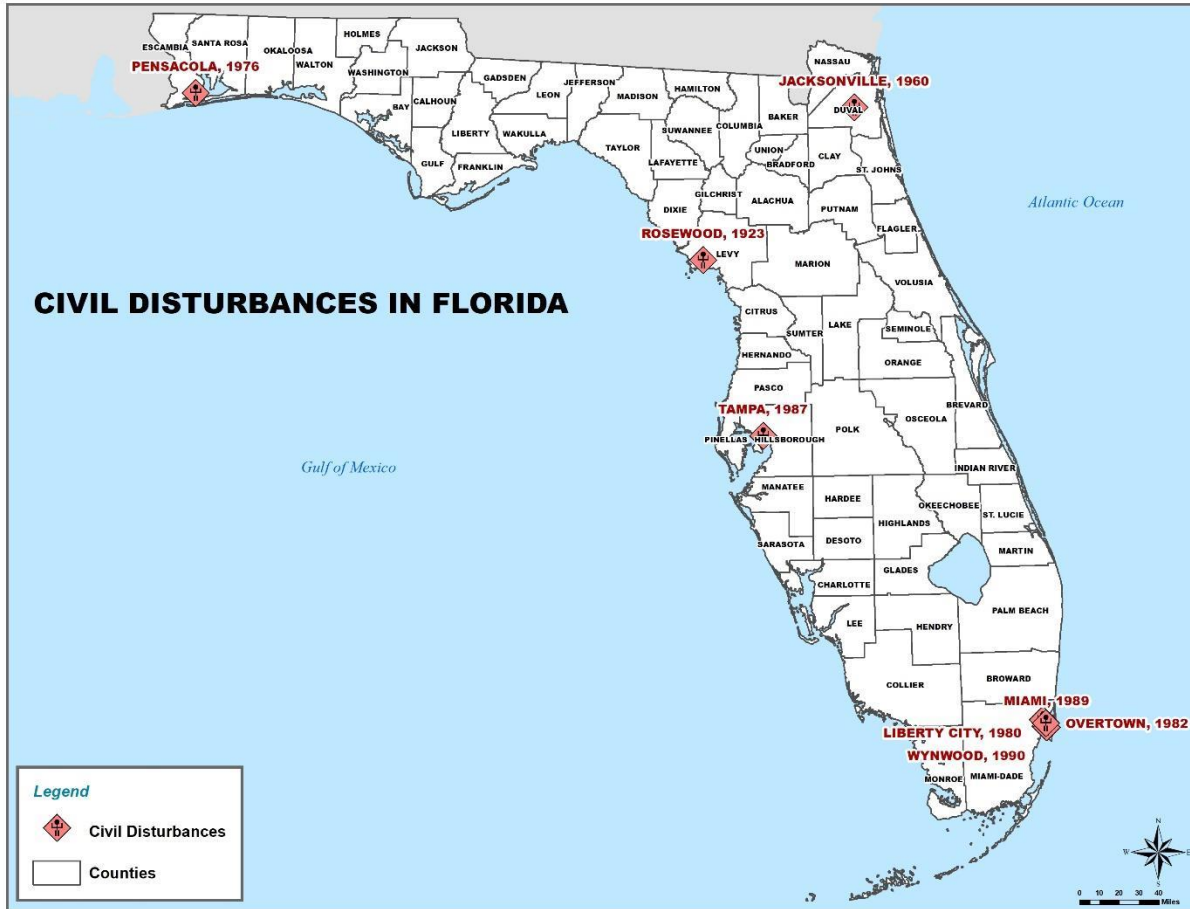
Source: PCEM

Figure 2: Florida Agricultural Commodities, 2017



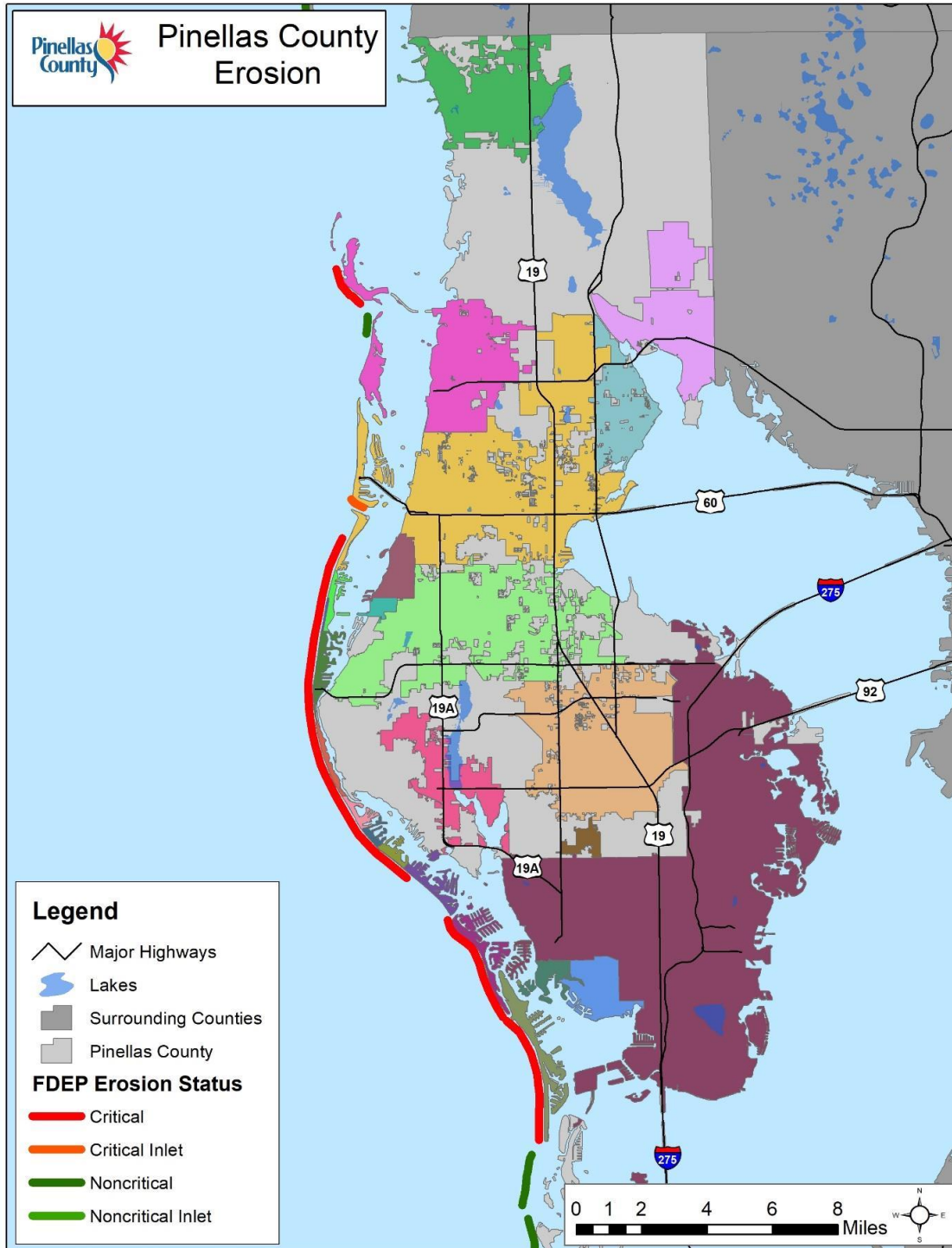
Source: FDACS, <https://www.fdacs.gov/content/download/16789/file/P-01331.pdf>

Figure 3: Civil disturbance occurrences in Florida, March 2020



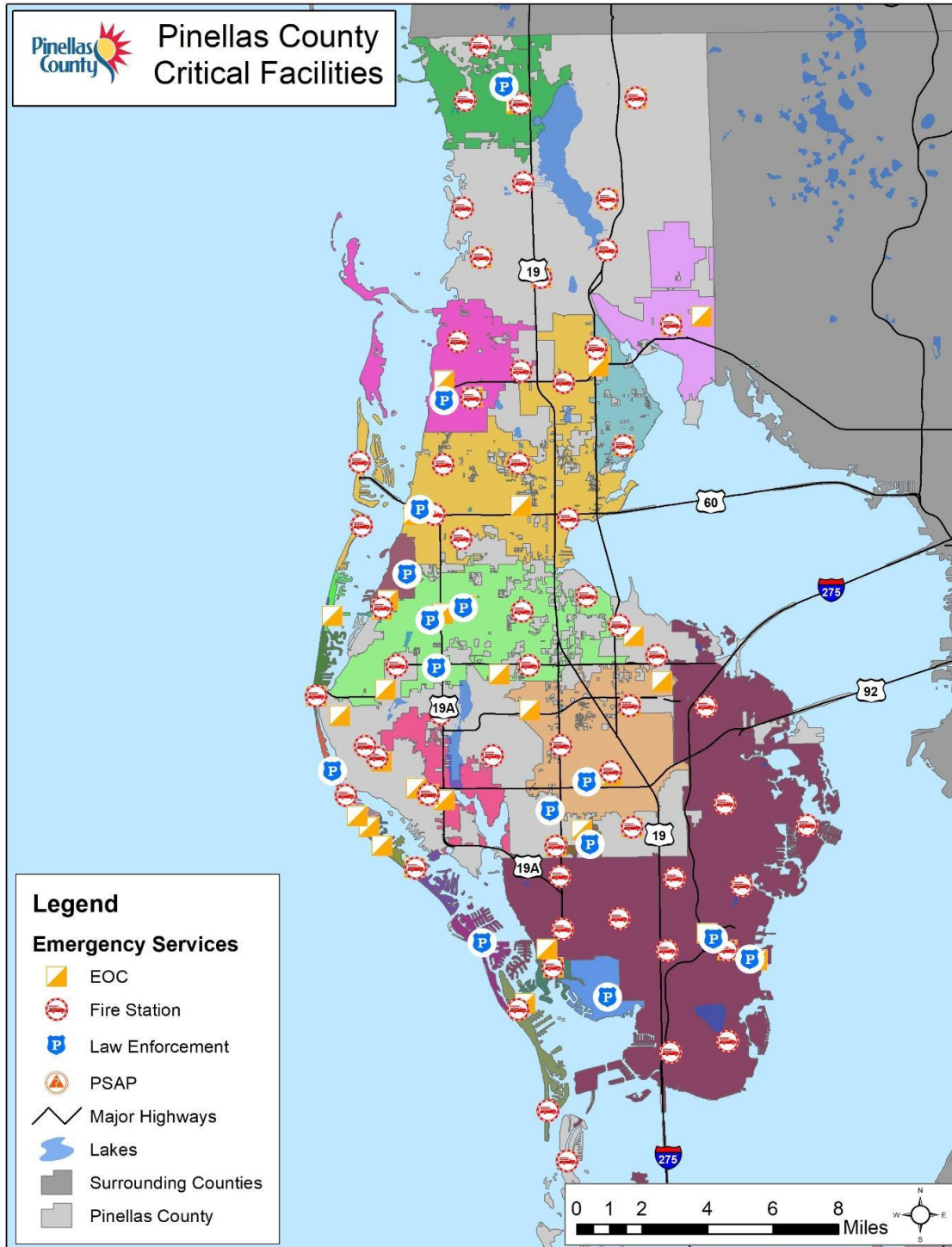
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.86, Page 4-390.

Figure 4: Map of critical coastal erosion areas, June 2018



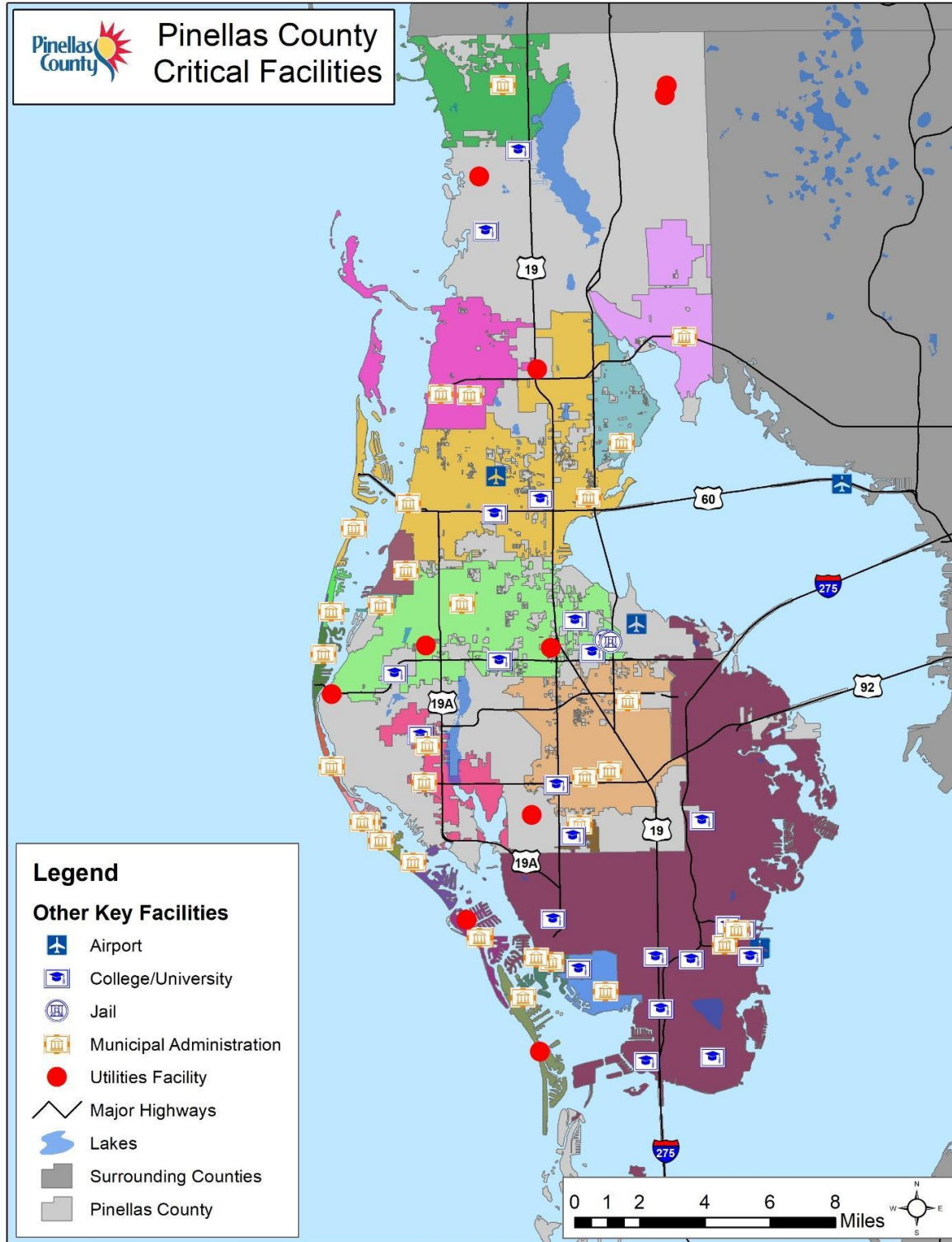
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.55, Page 4-198, created based upon data and reports provided by DEP: <https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/CriticallyErodedBeaches.pdf>

Figure 5: Map of emergency service critical facilities, March 2020



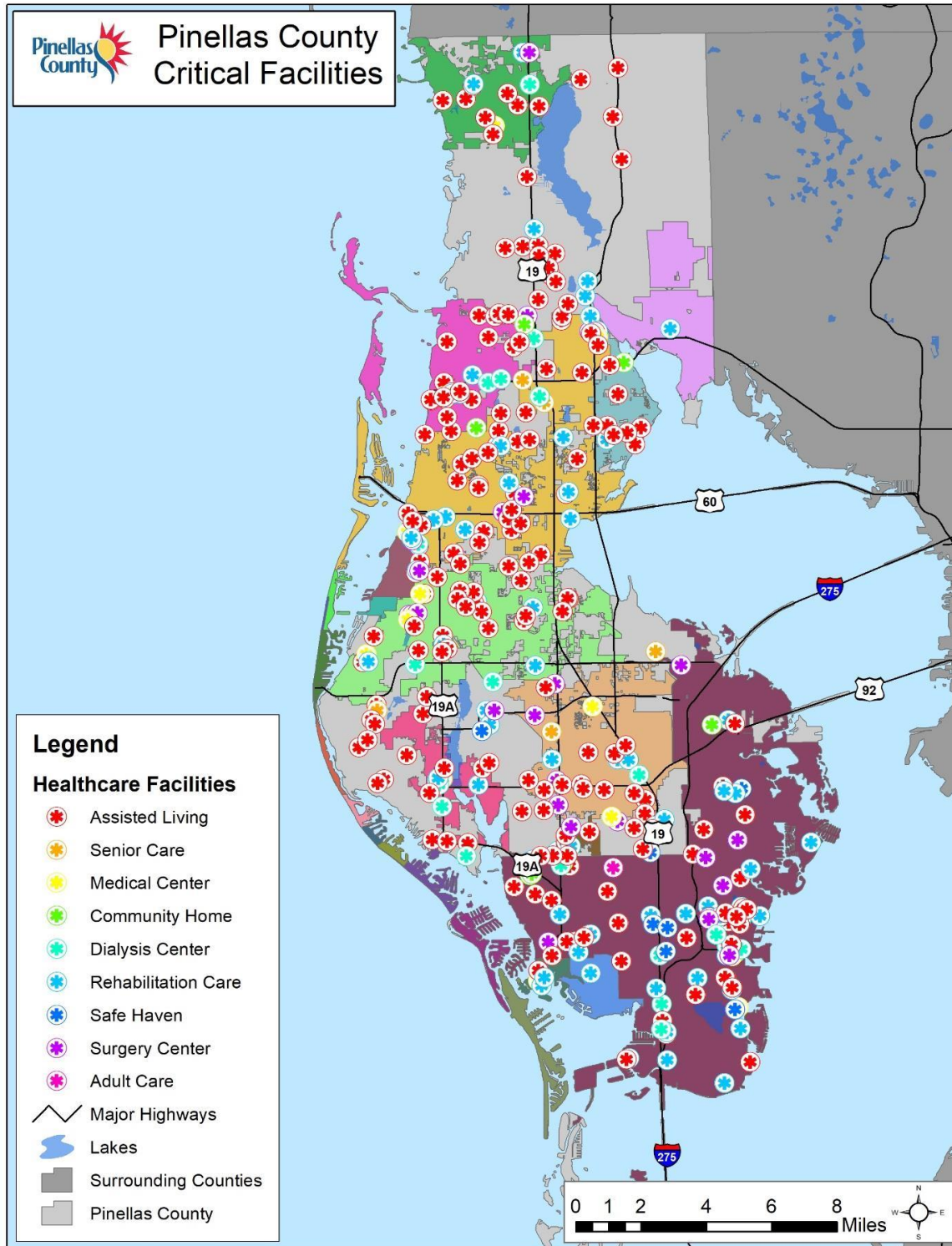
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.3, Page 4-13.

Figure 6: Map of other various critical facilities, March 2020



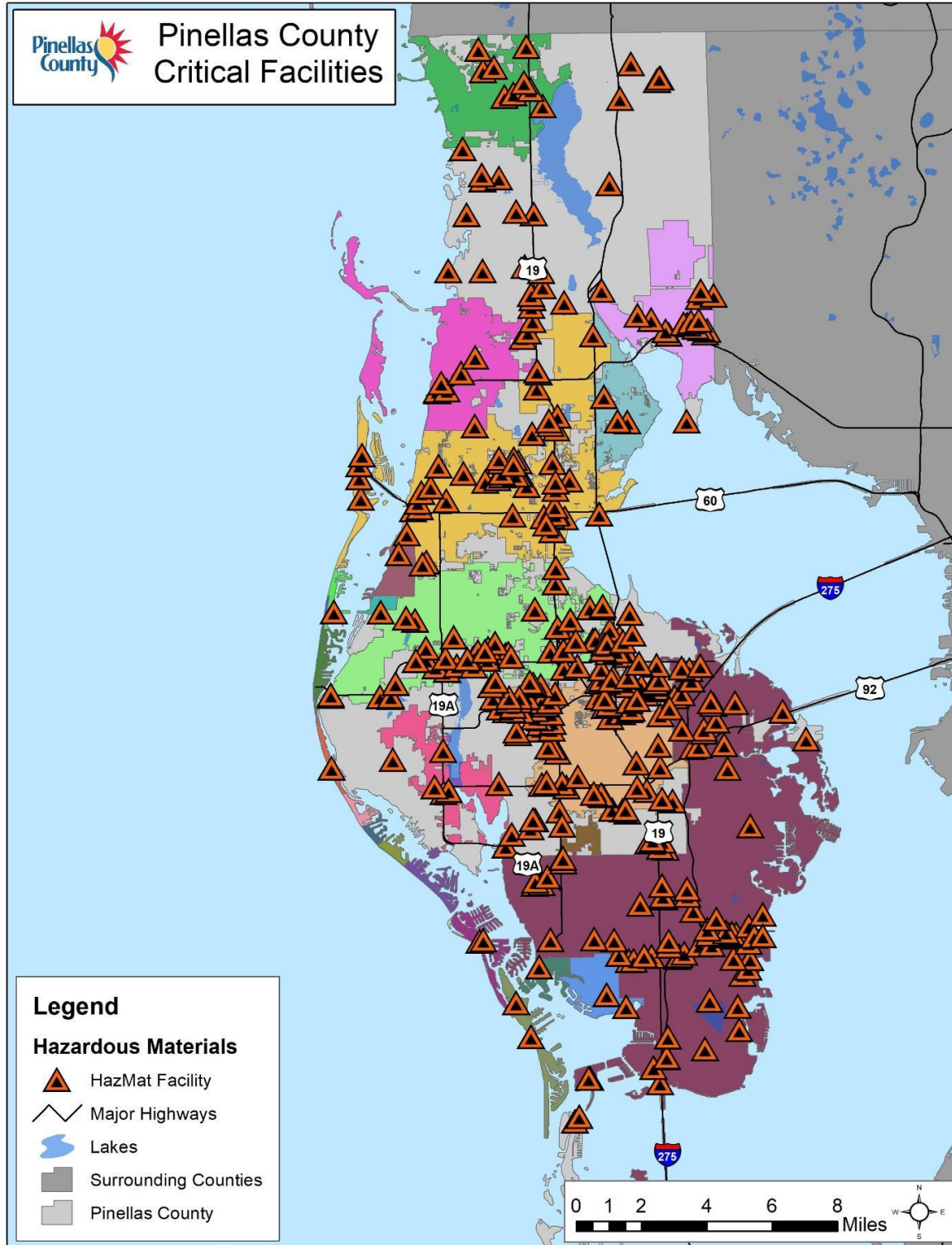
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.7, Page 4-17.

Figure 7: Map of healthcare critical facilities, March 2020



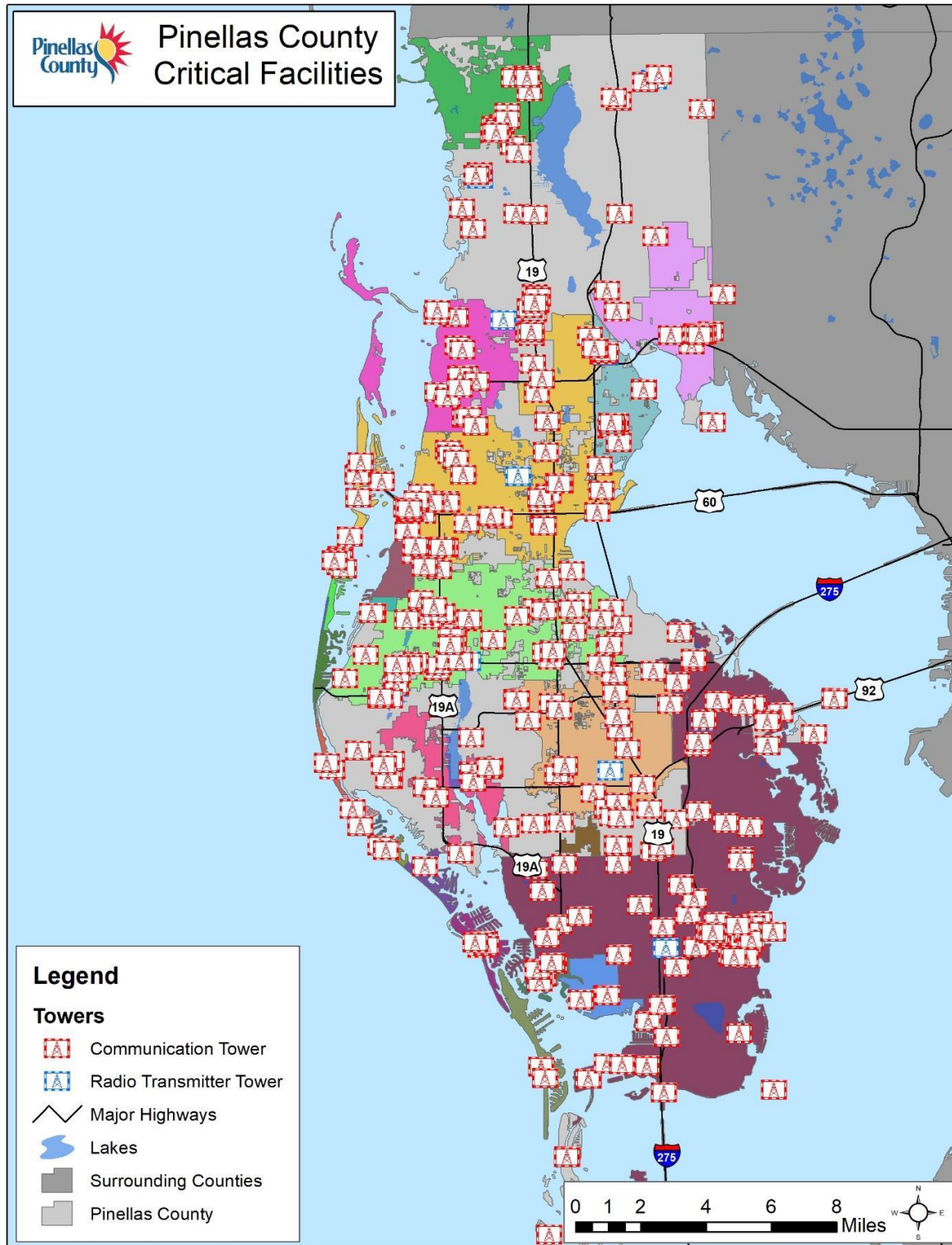
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.5, Page 4-15

Figure 8: Map of hazardous material critical facilities, March 2020



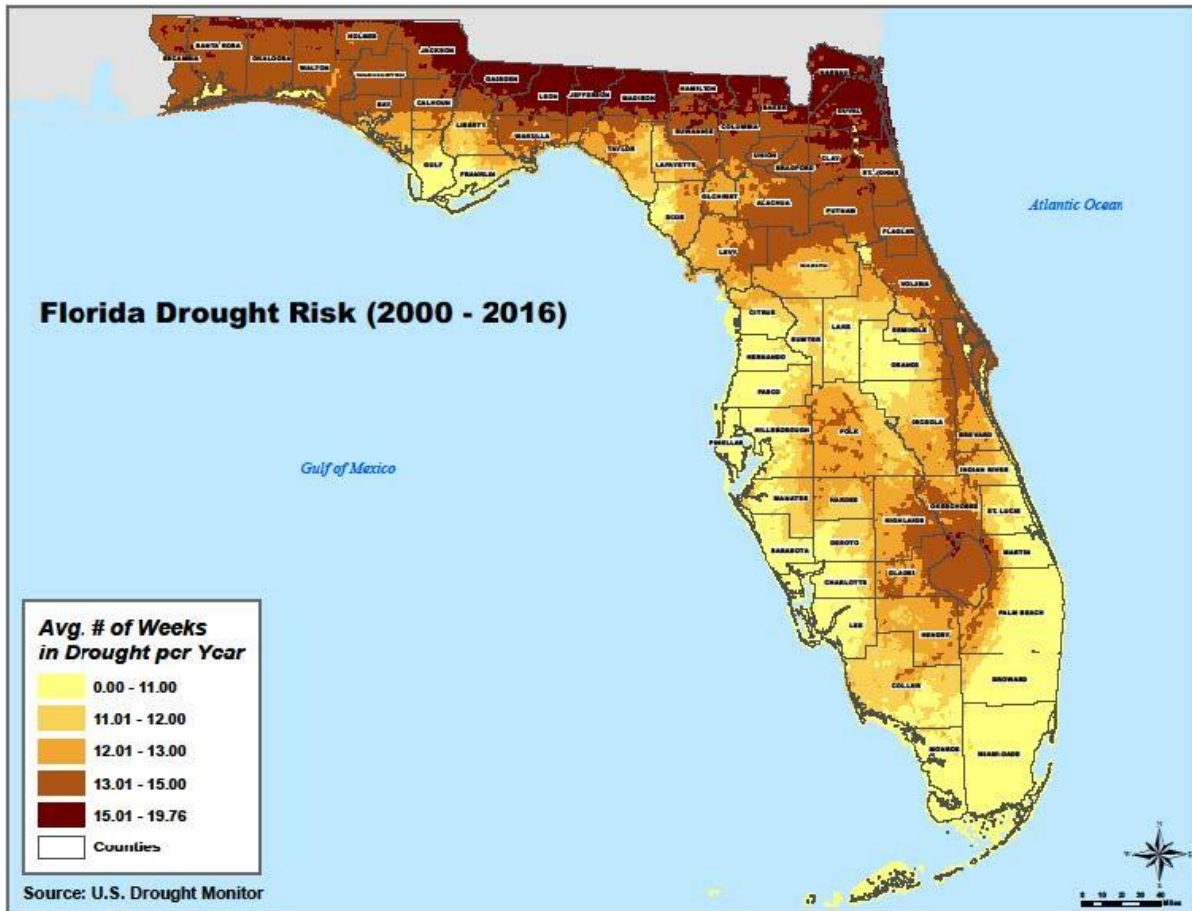
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.4, Page 4-14.

Figure 9: Map of communications critical facilities, March 2020



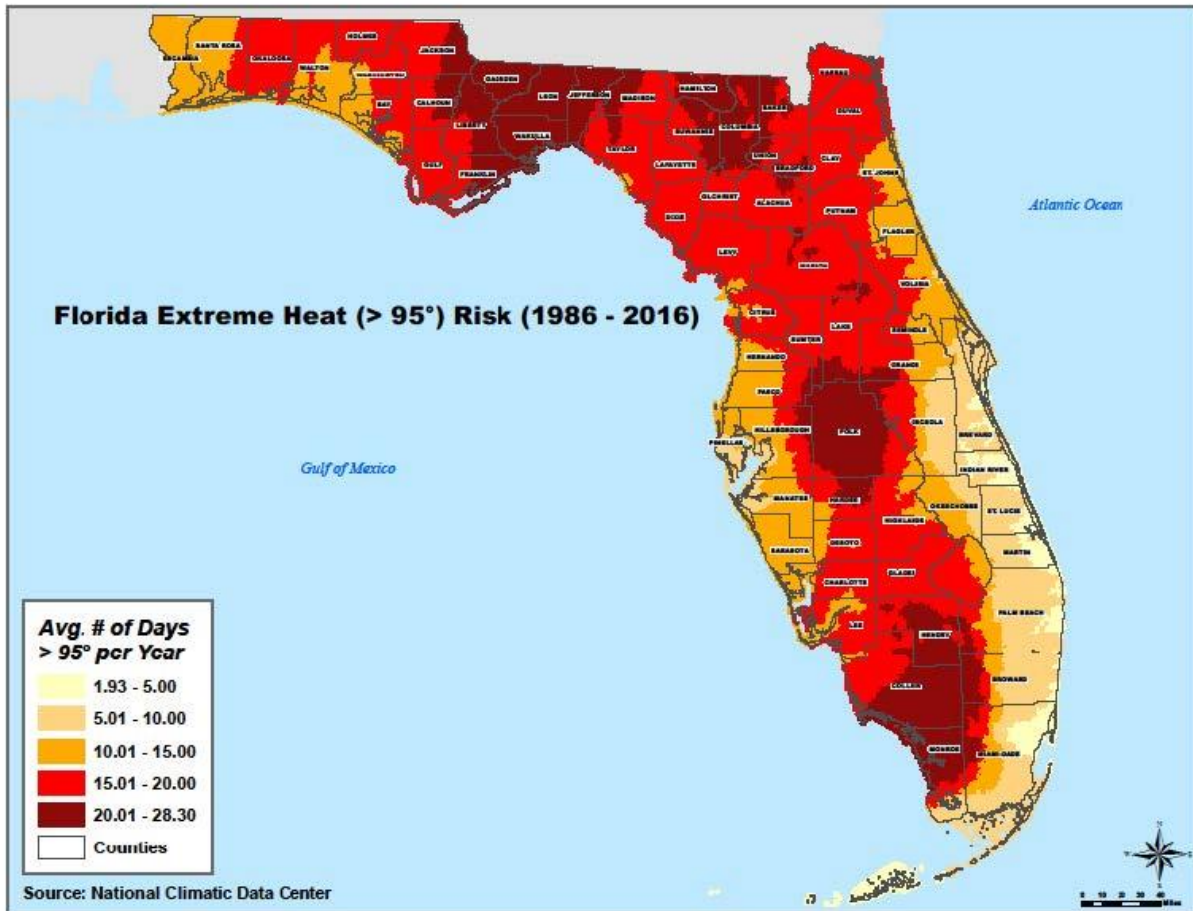
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.6, Page 4-16

Figure 10: Map of drought risk in the State of Florida



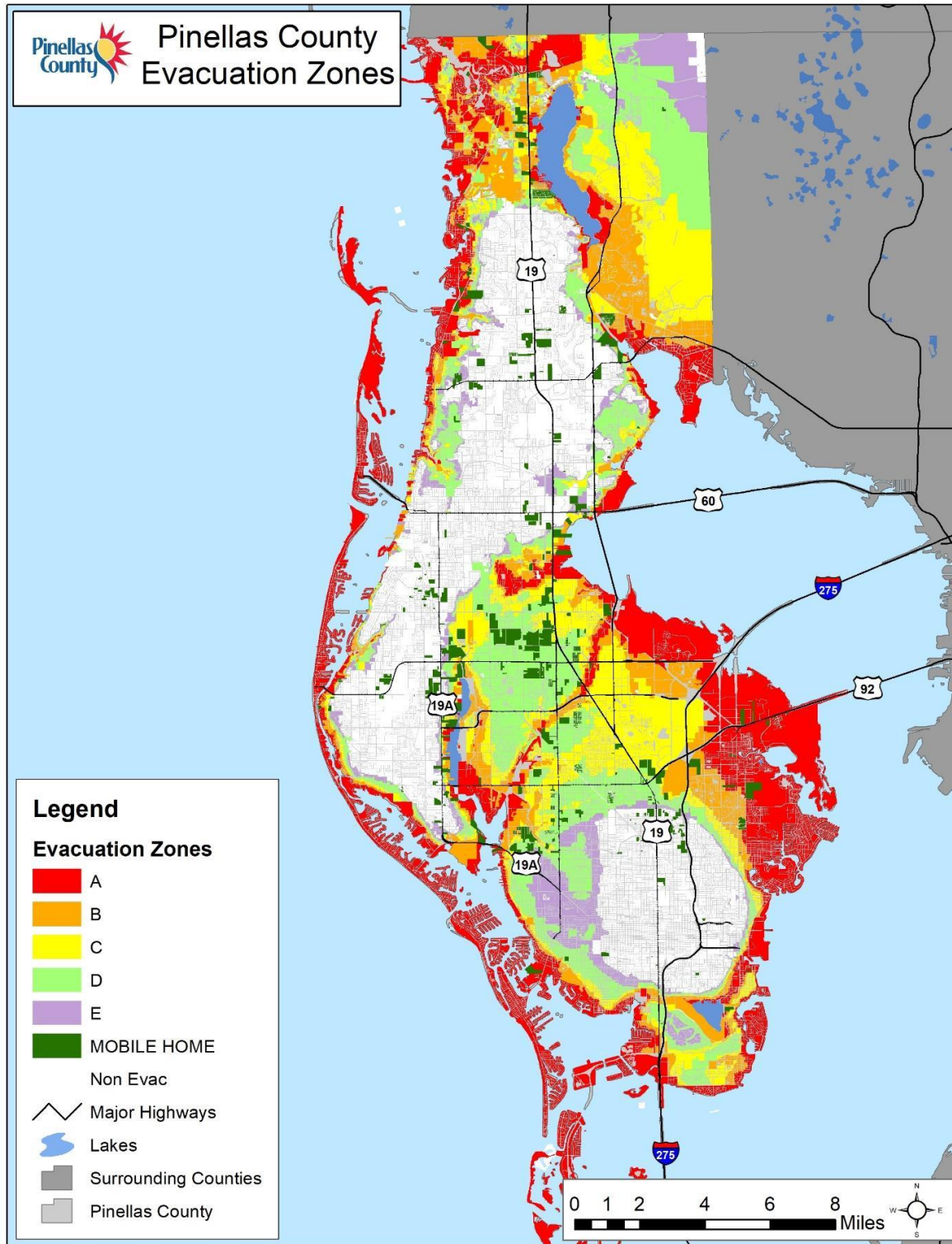
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.63, Page 4-226

Figure 11: Map of extreme heat risk in the State of Florida



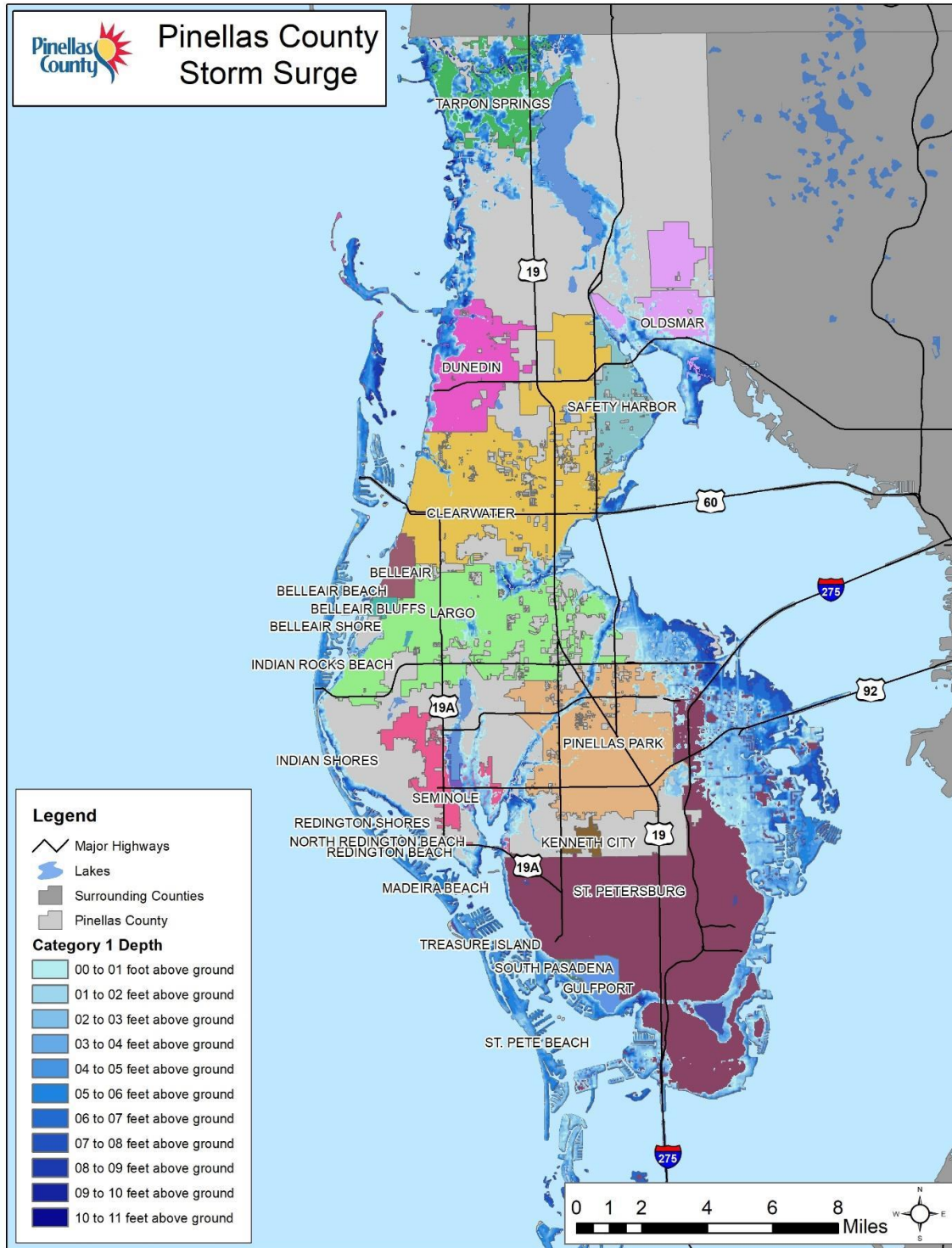
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.57, Page 4-212

Figure 12: Map of evacuation zones and major evacuation routes, 2019



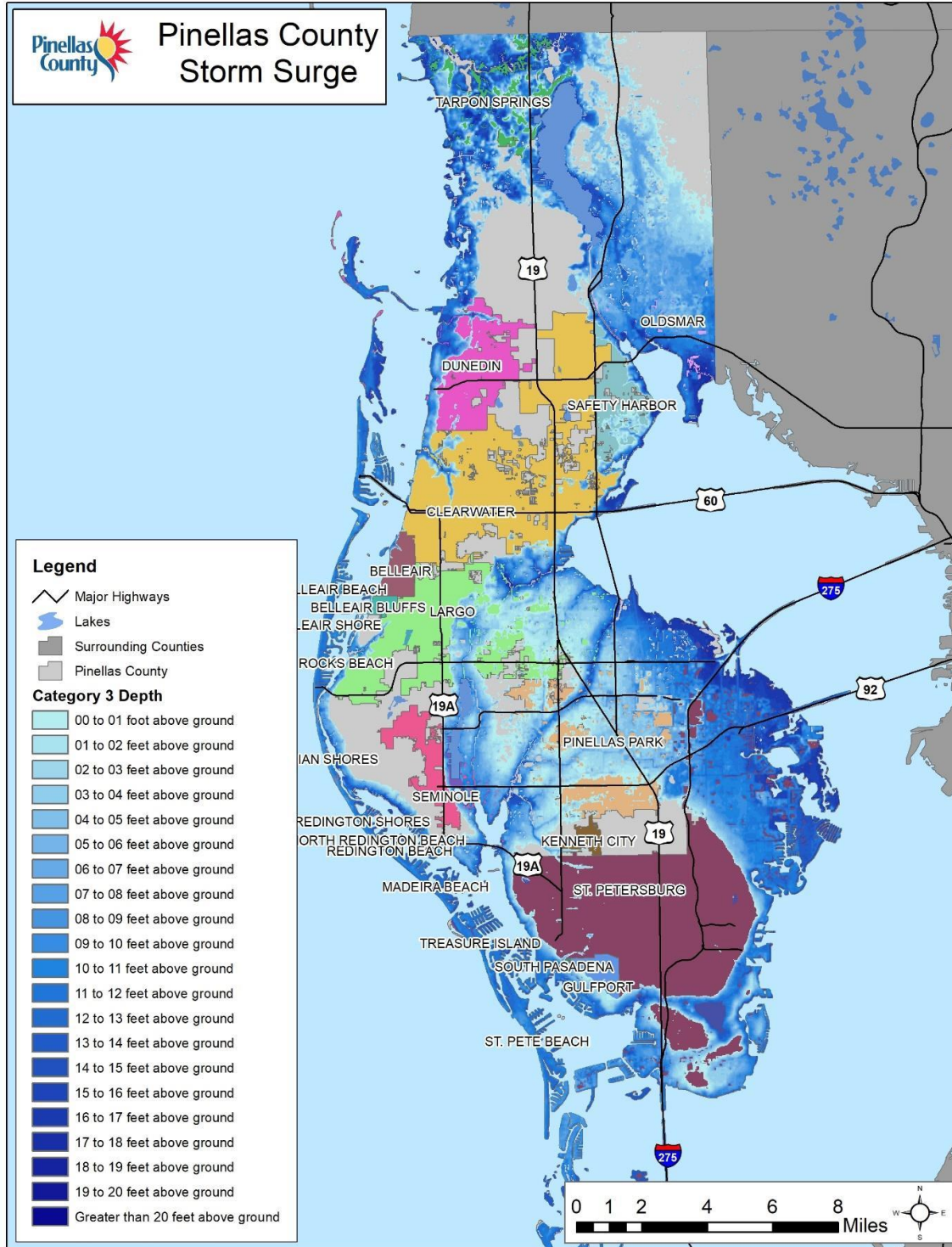
Source: PCEM GIS

Figure 13: Potential Category 1 storm surge inundation, March 2020



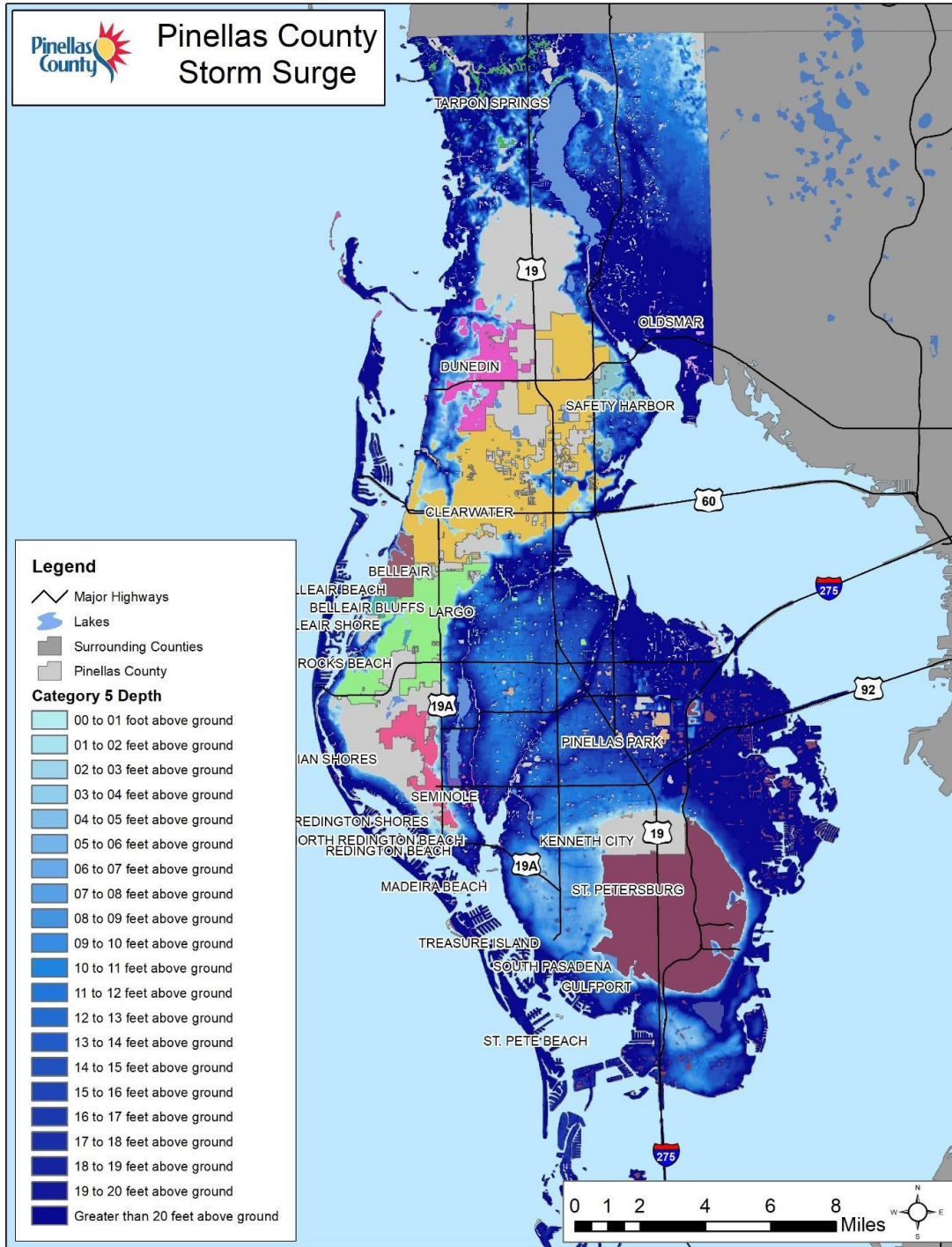
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.33, Page 4-88

Figure 14: Potential Category 3 storm surge inundation, March 2020



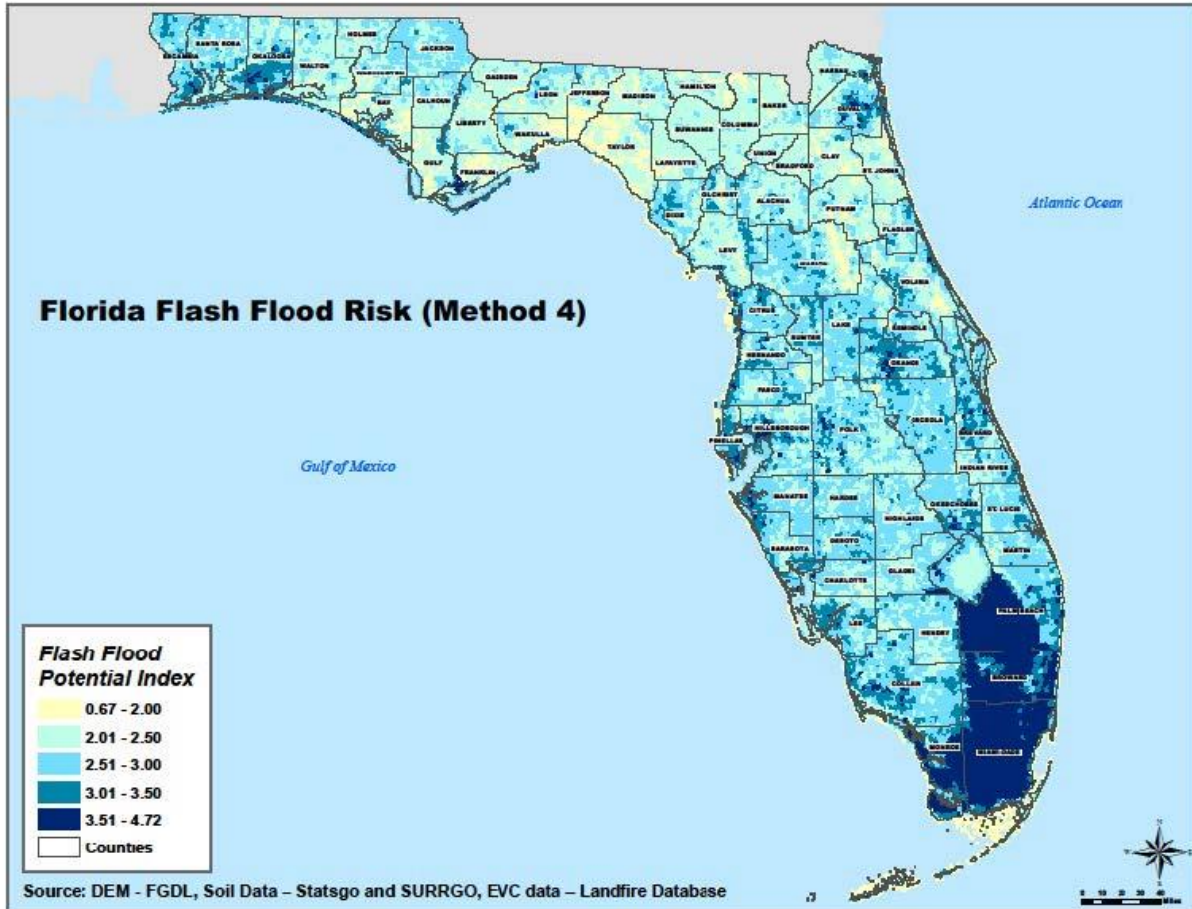
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.34, Page 4-89.

Figure 15: Potential Category 5 storm surge inundation, March 2020



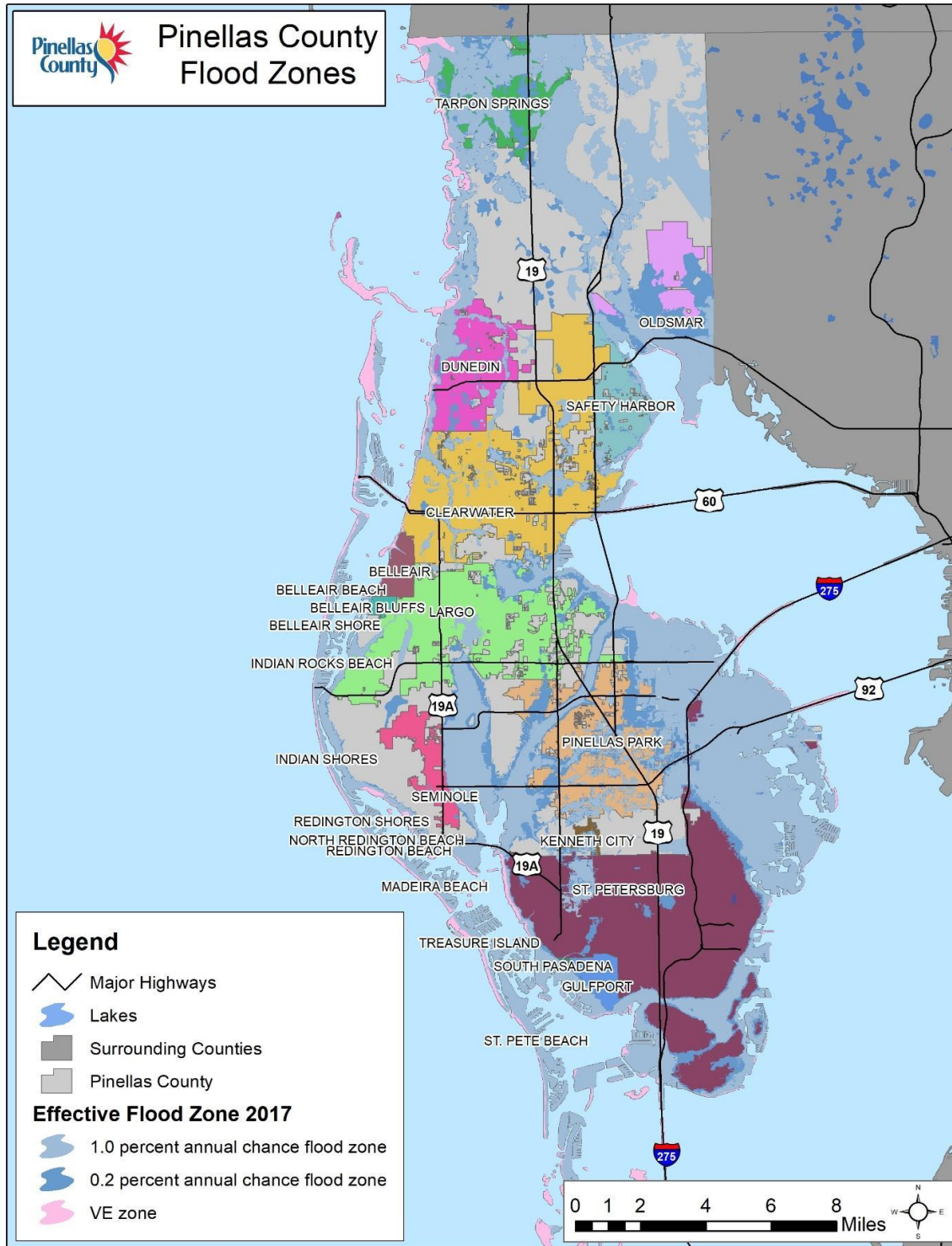
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.35, Page 4-90

Figure 16: Map of flash flood risk in Florida, 1996 - 2018



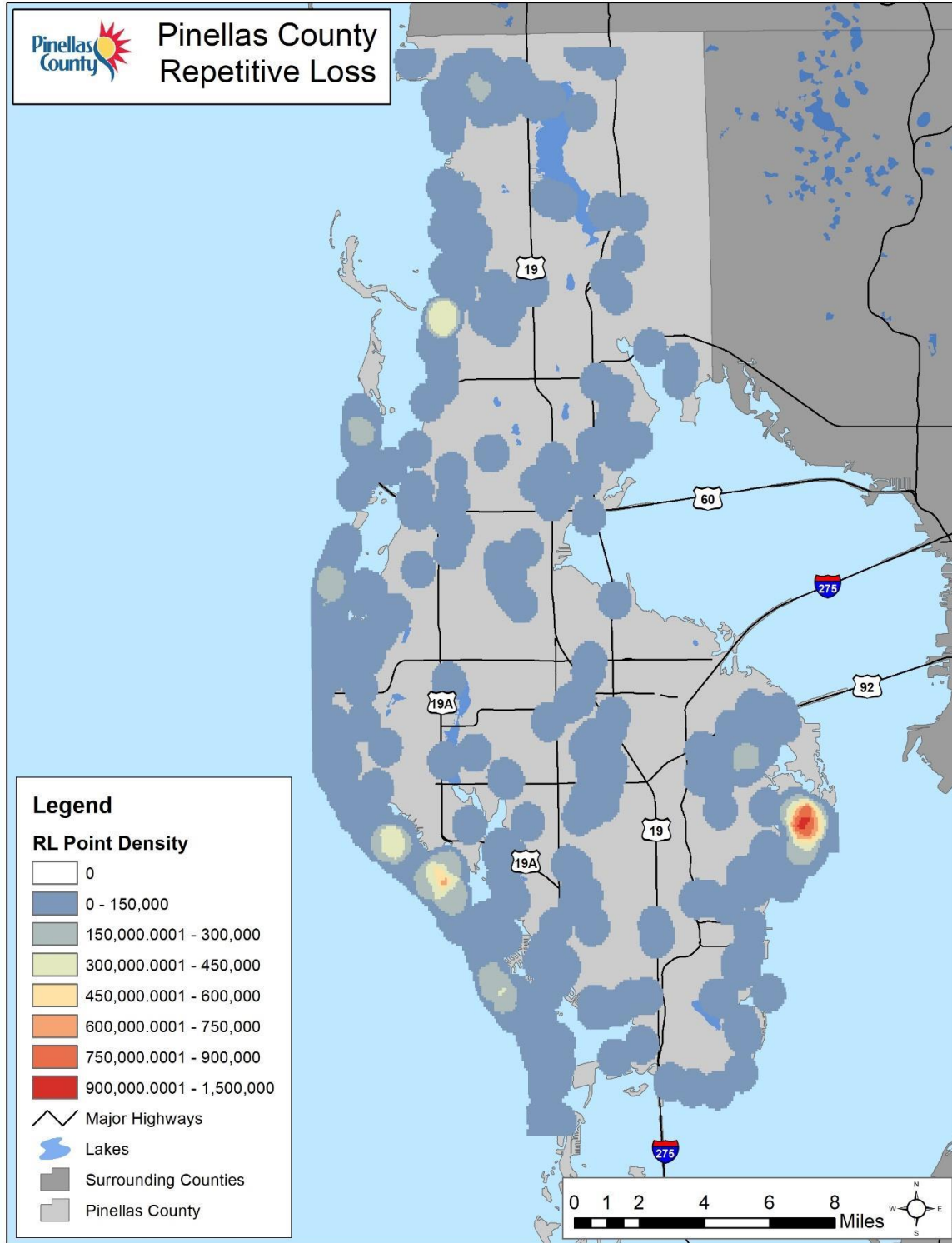
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.24, Page 4-59

Figure 17: Map of flood zones



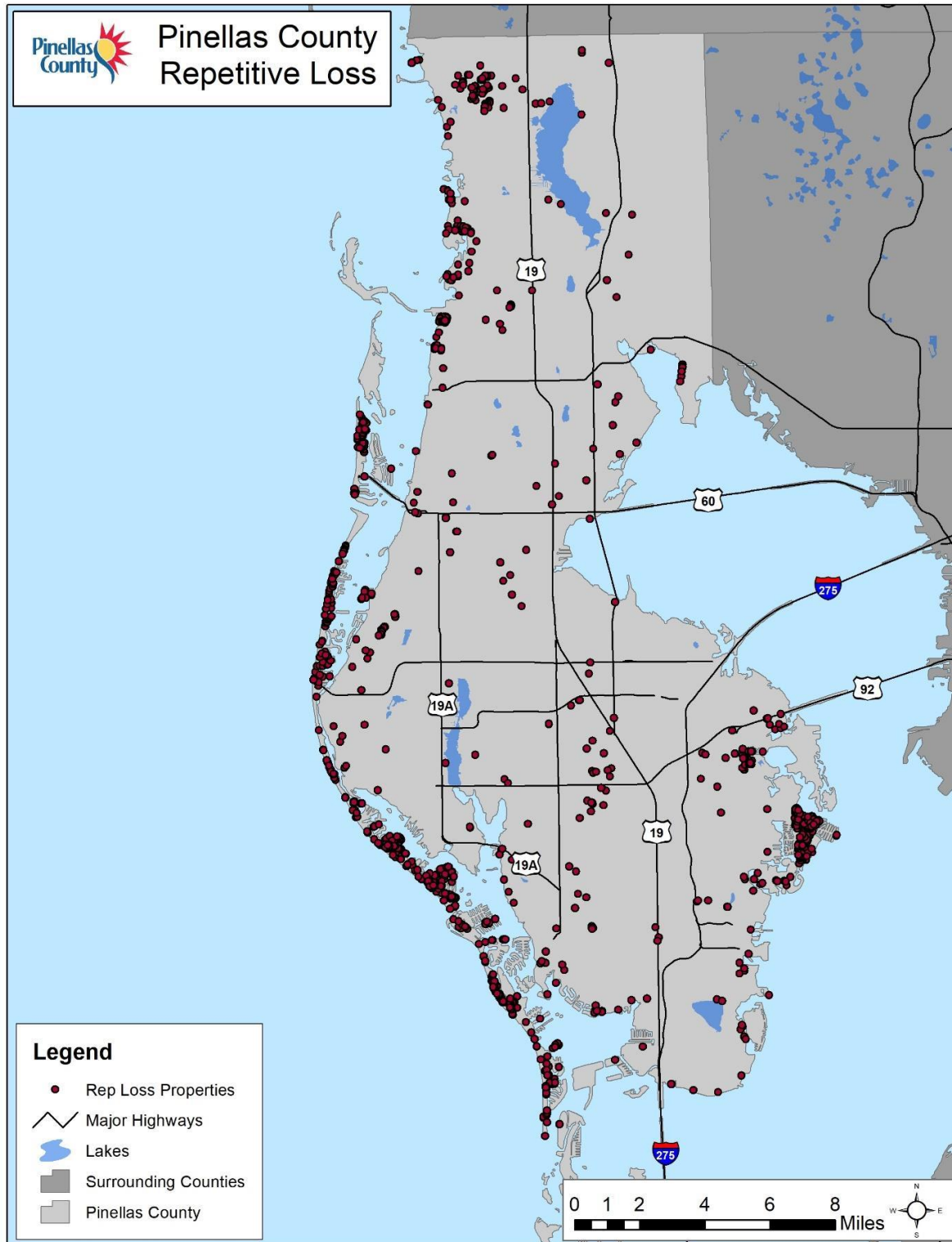
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.17, Page 4-43.

Figure 18: Map of repetitive flood loss properties by density, March 2020



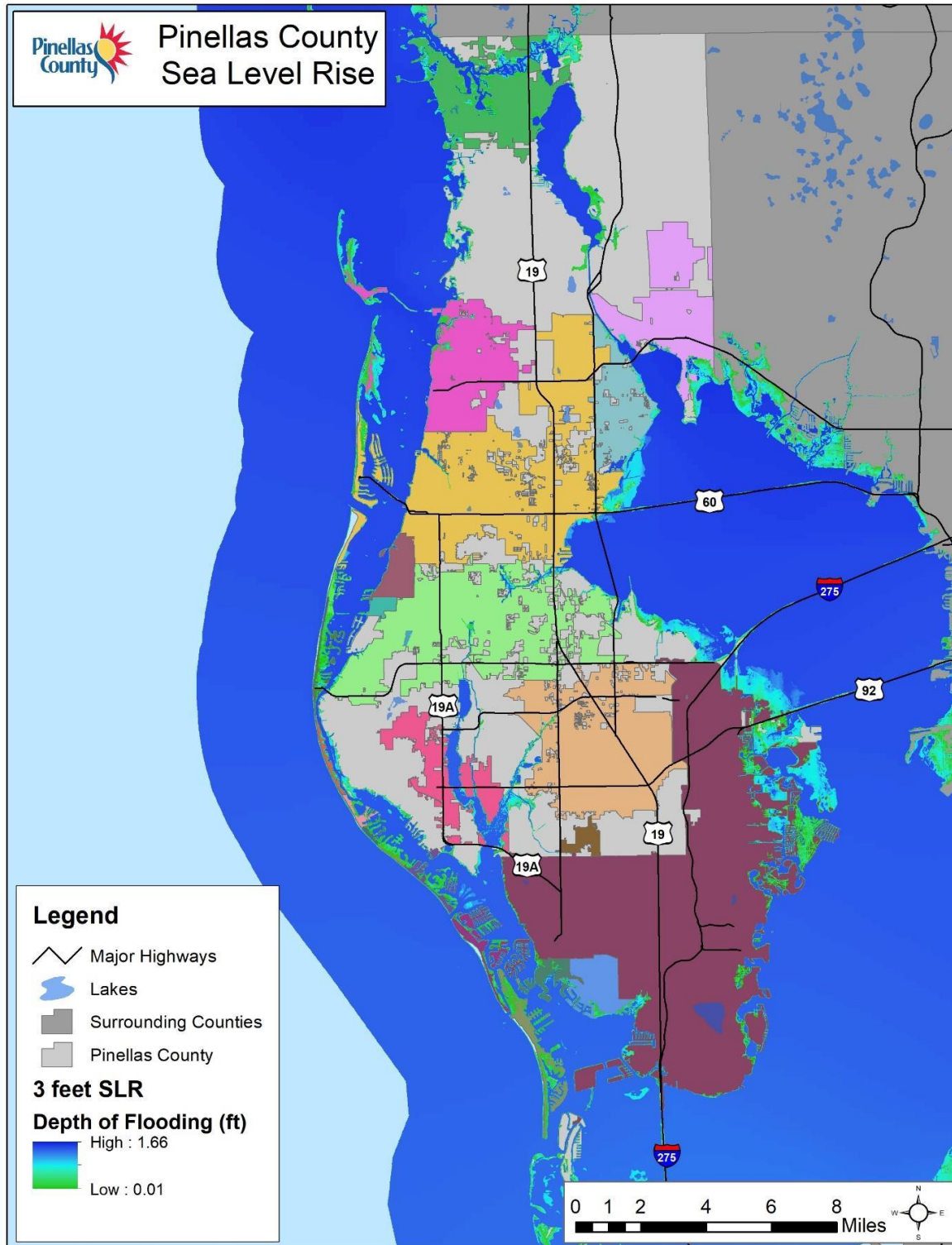
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.19, Page 4-46

Figure 19: Map of repetitive flood loss locations, March 2020



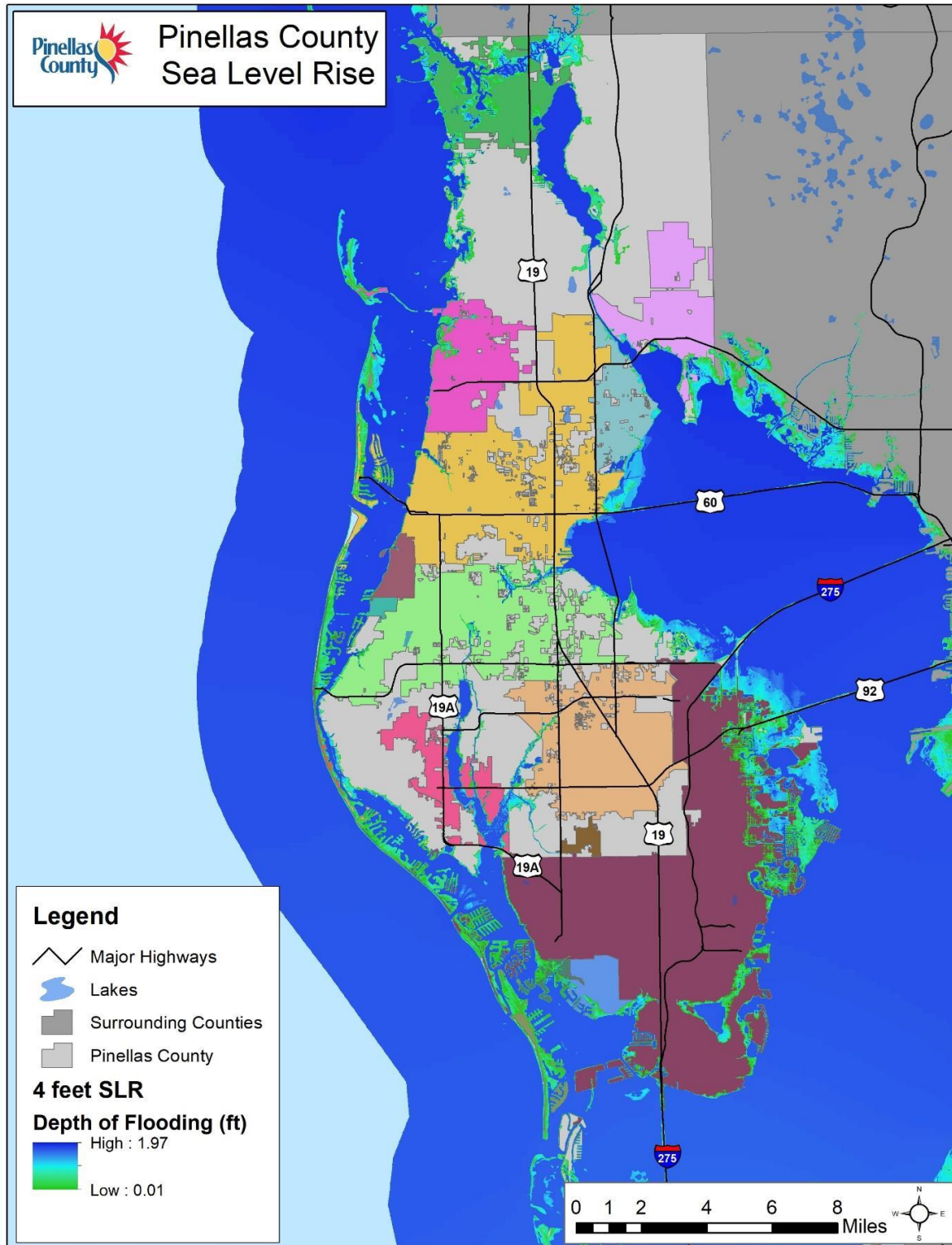
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.18, Page 4-45

Figure 20: Map of potential 3-feet of sea level rise flooding



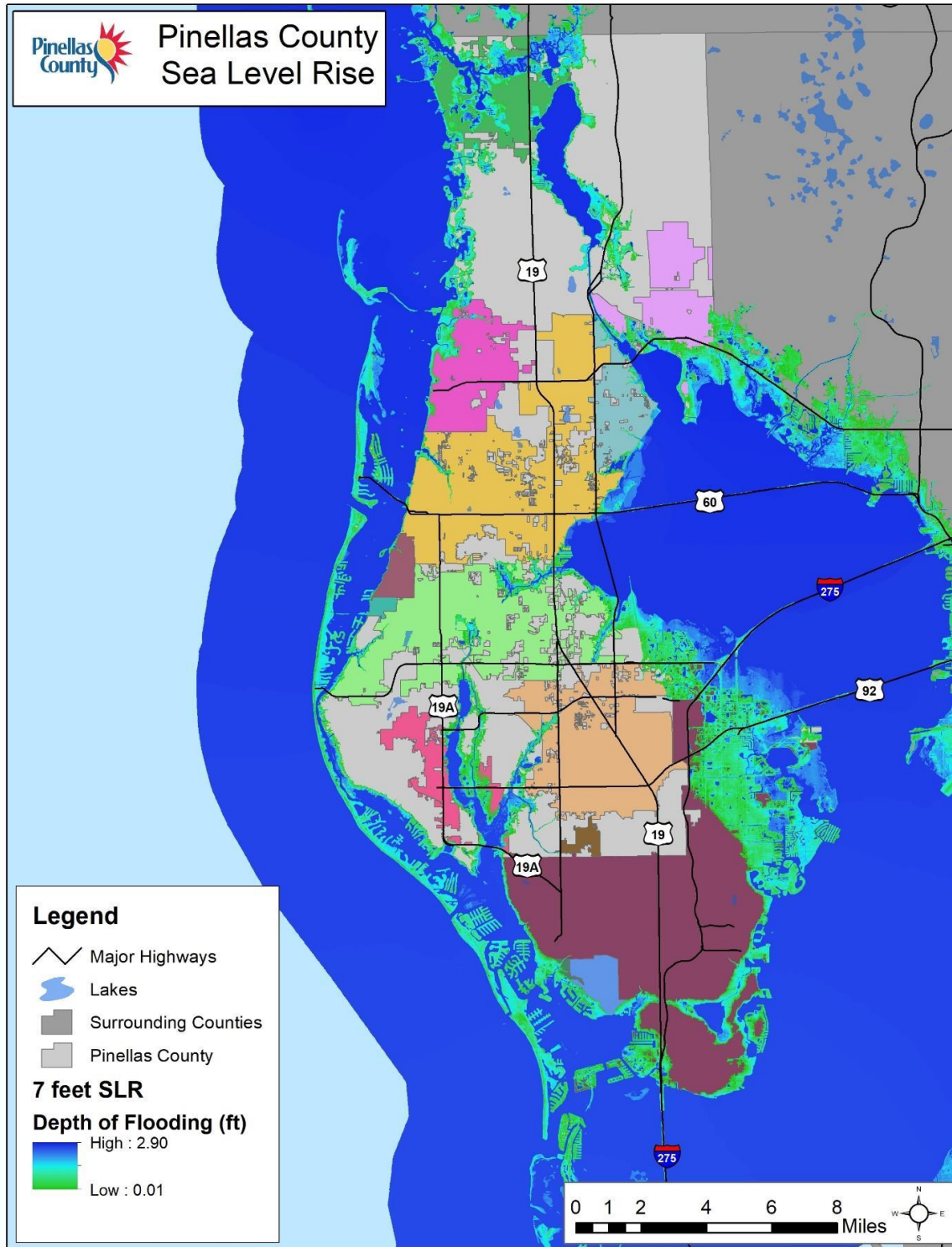
Source: LMS Figure 4.18, Page 4-45

Figure 21: Map of potential 4-feet of sea level rise flooding



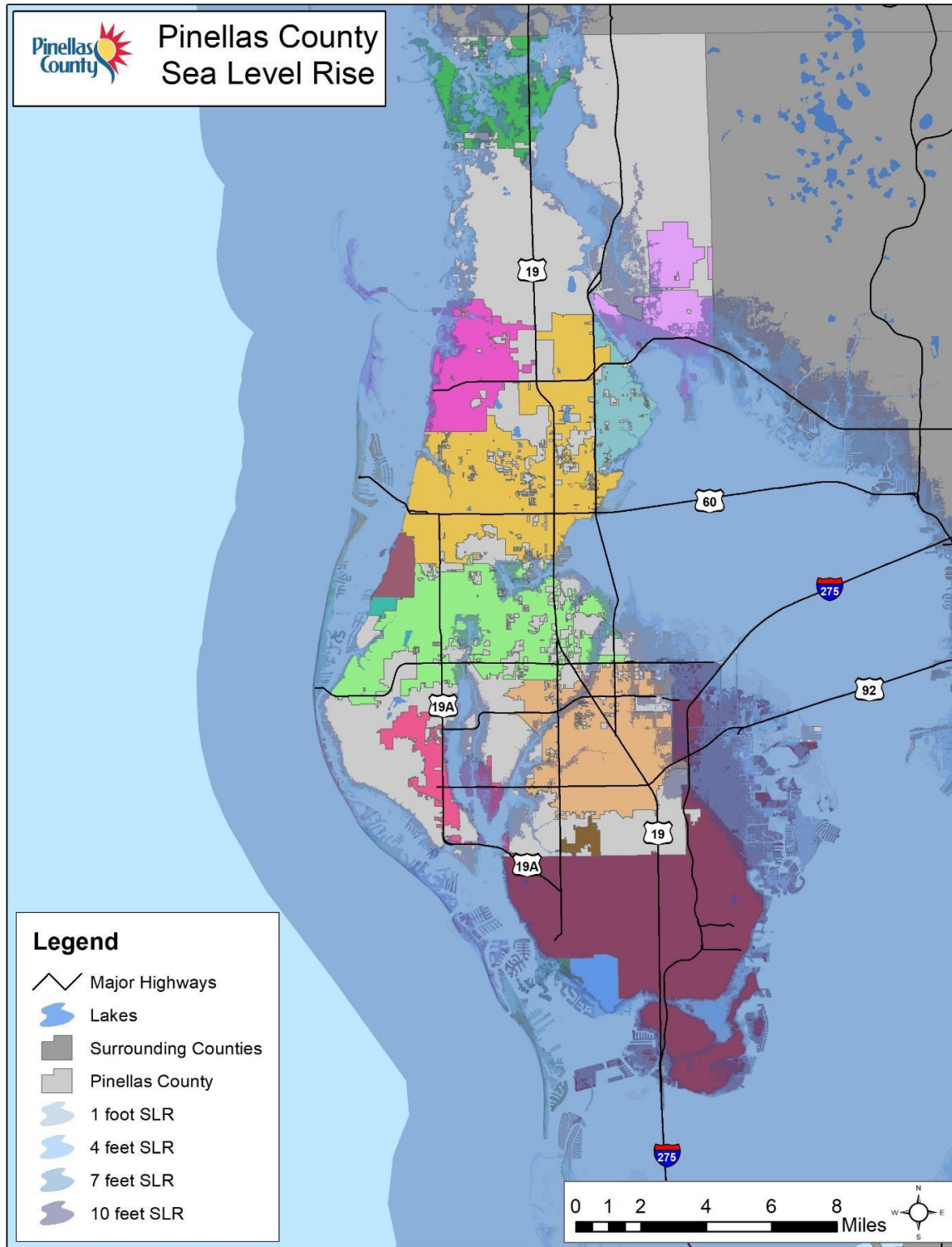
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.22, Page 4-50

Figure 22: Map of potential 7-feet of sea level rise flooding



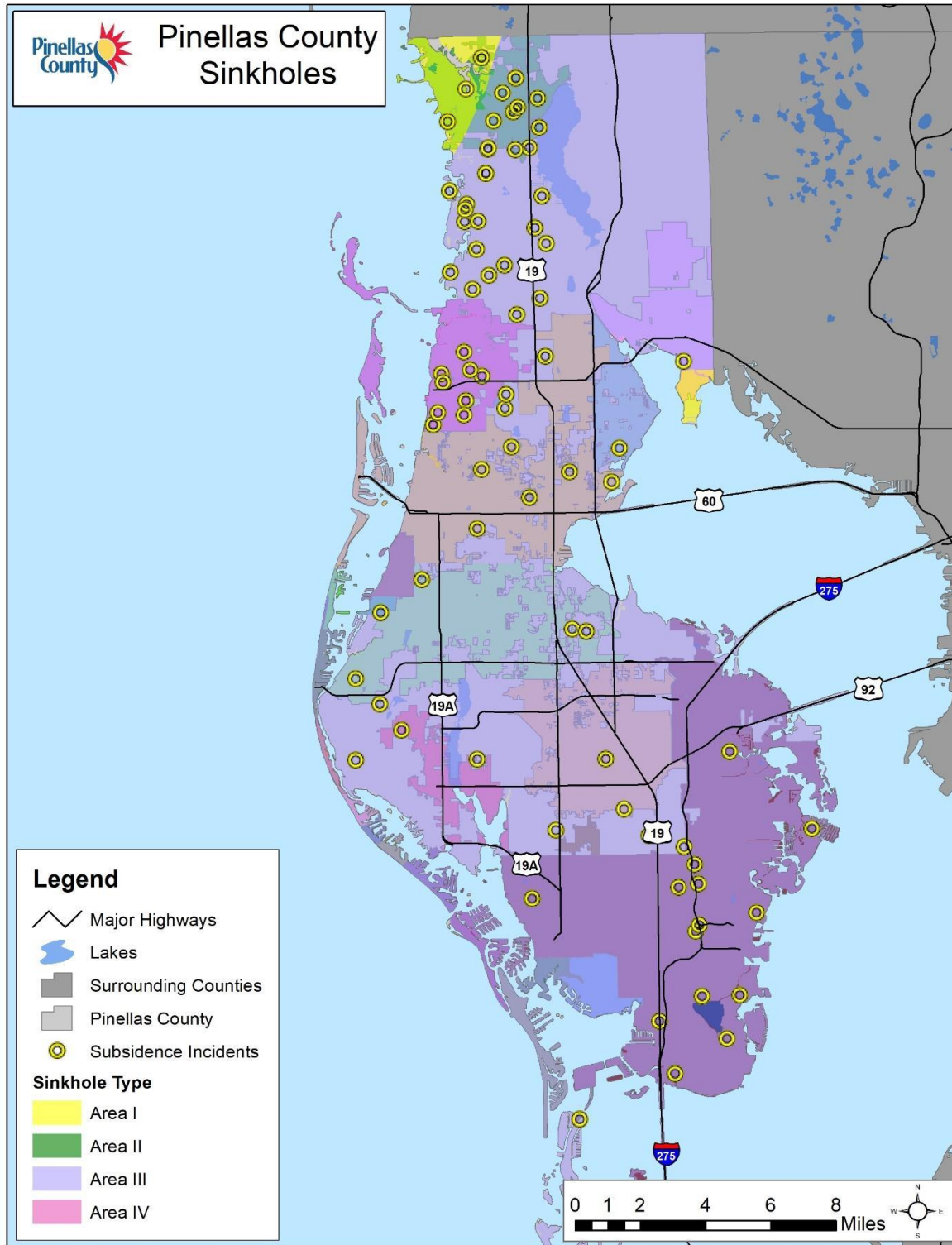
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.23, Page 4-51

Figure 23: Map of potential 10- feet of sea level rise flooding



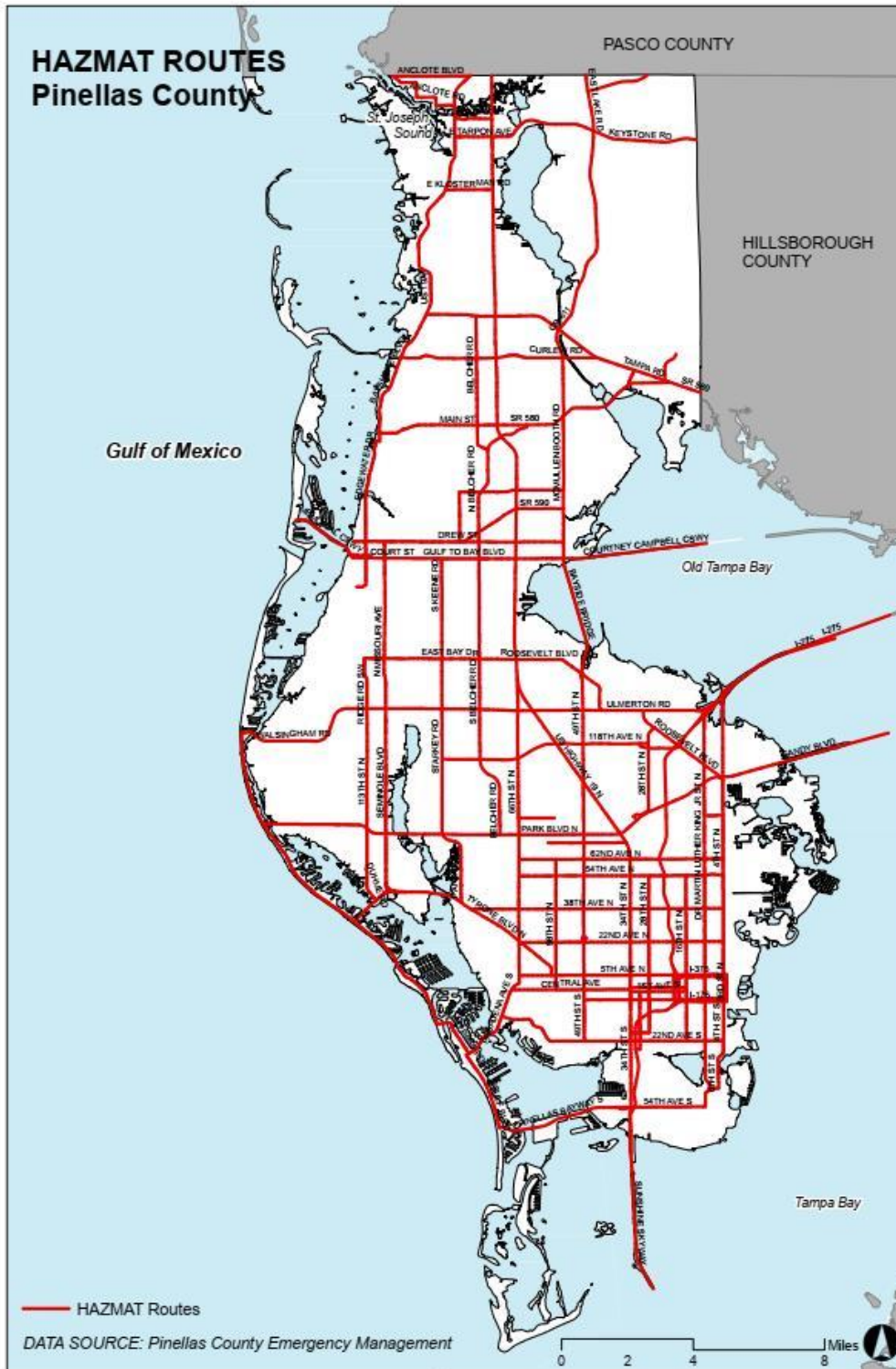
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.20, Page 4-48

Figure 24: Map of sinkhole type areas and historical incidents, March 2020



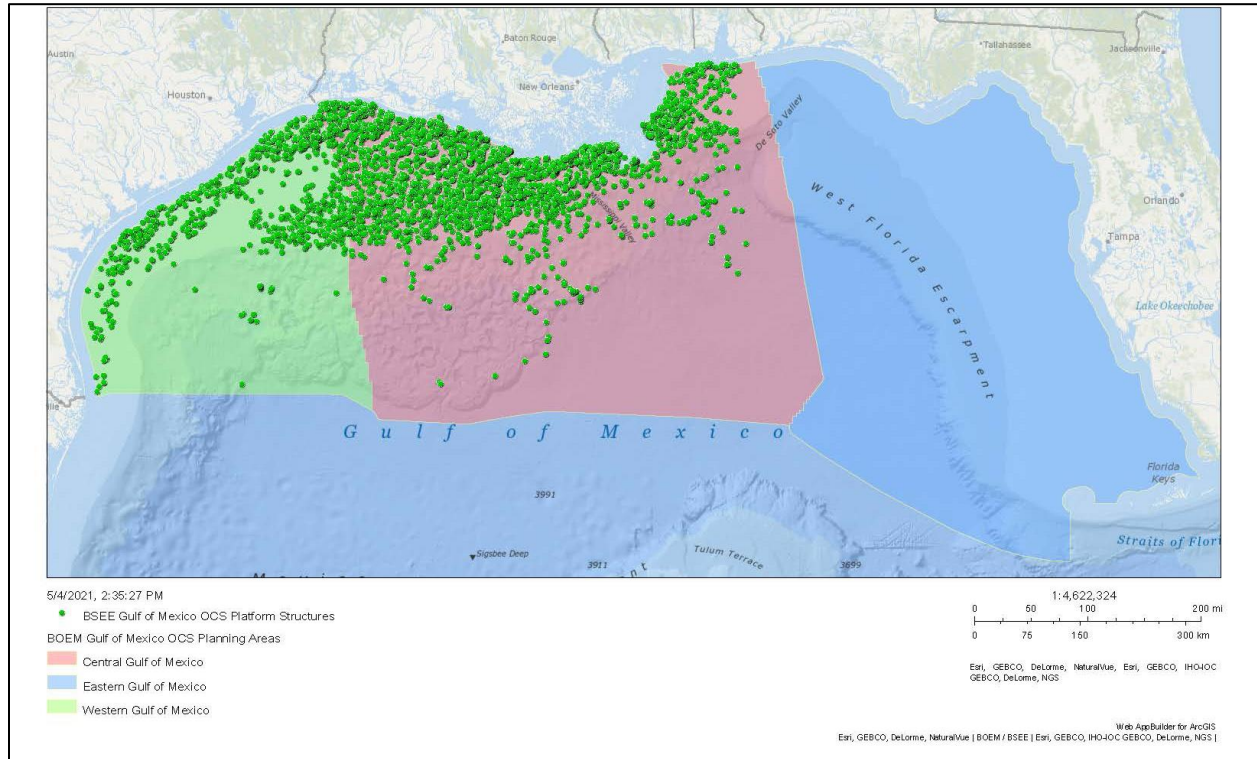
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.66, Page 4-236

Figure 25: Map of hazardous material routes, March 2020



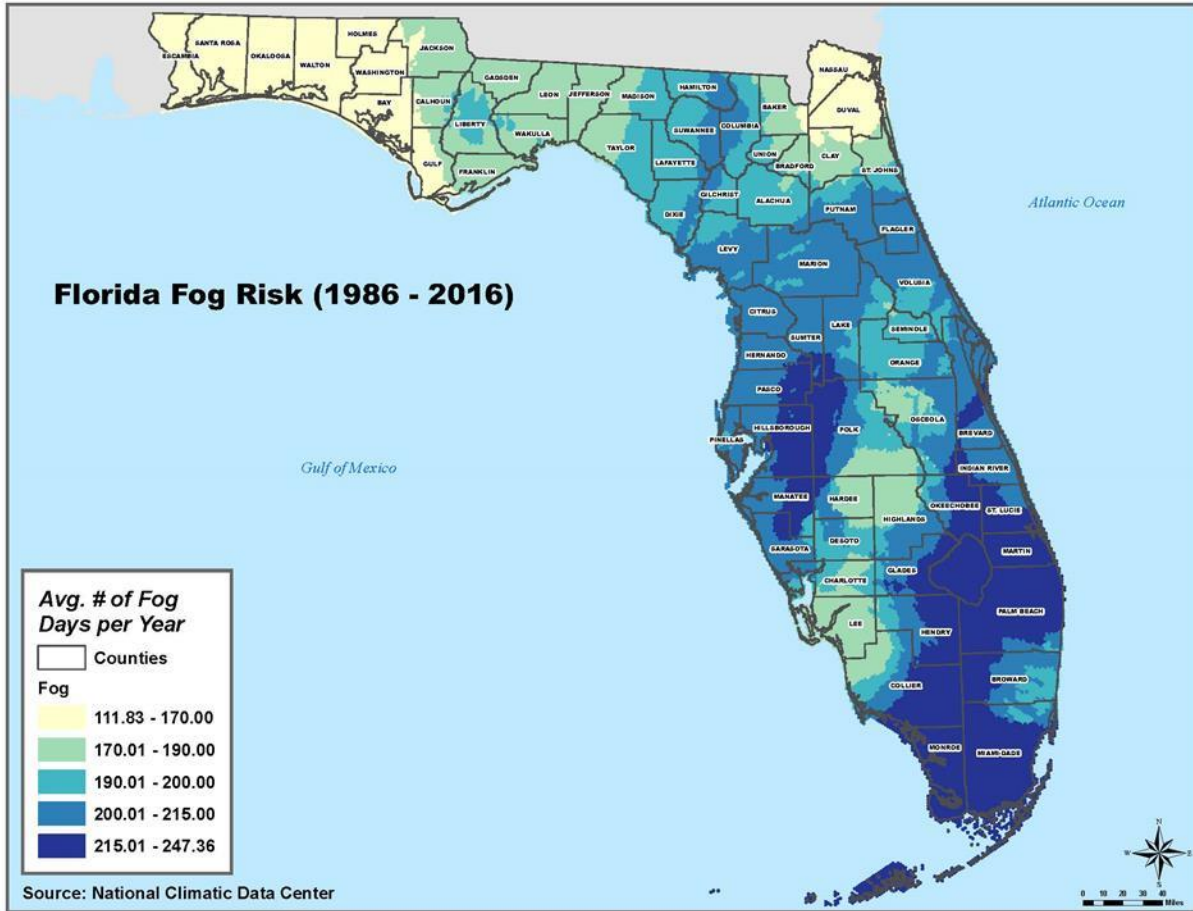
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.76, Page 4-290.

Figure 26: Map of oil platform structures active in the Gulf of Mexico



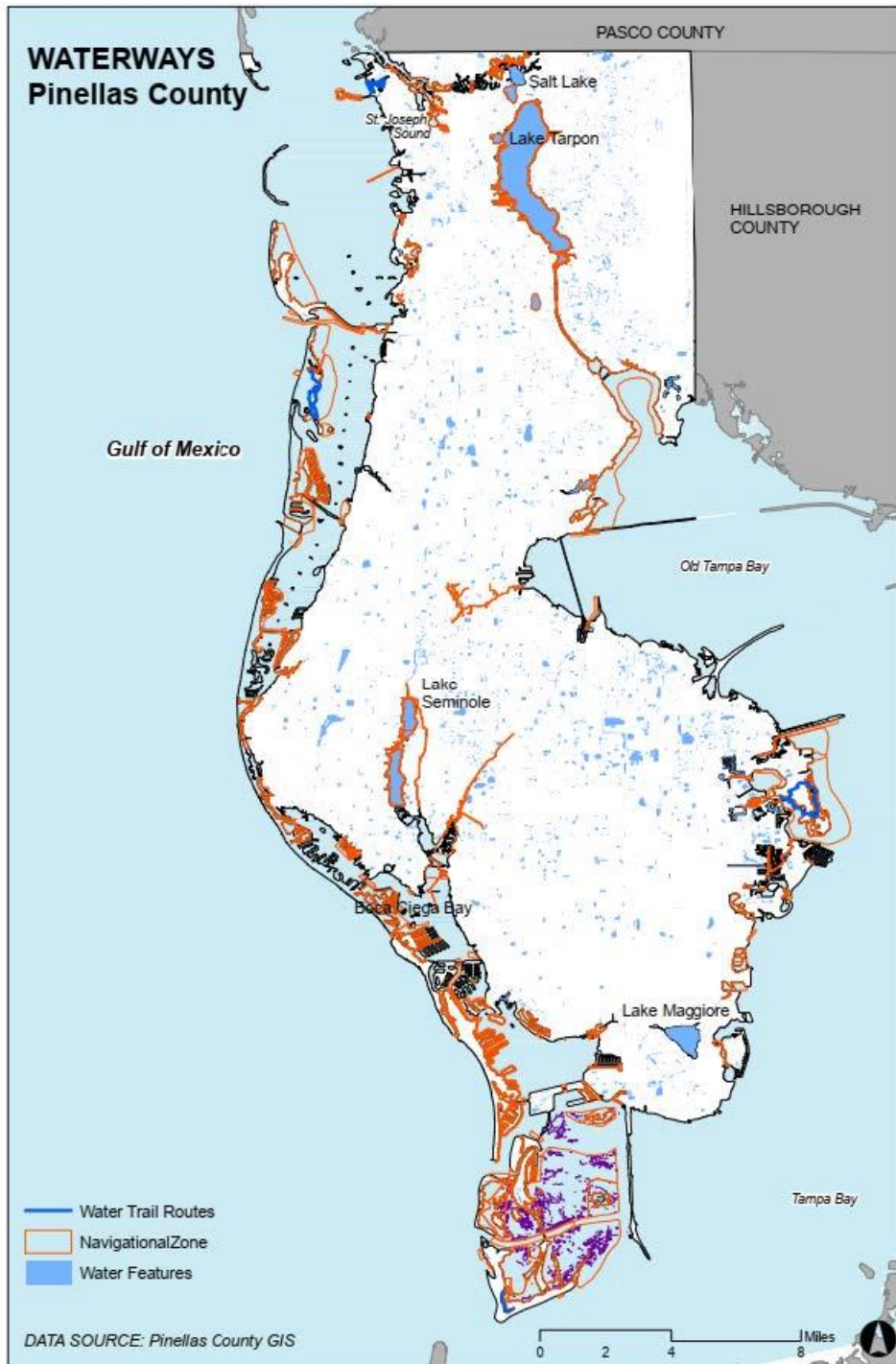
Source: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Figure 27: Map of fog risk in the State of Florida



Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.77, Page 4-292

Figure 28: Map of waterways, features, trails, and navigational zones, March 2020



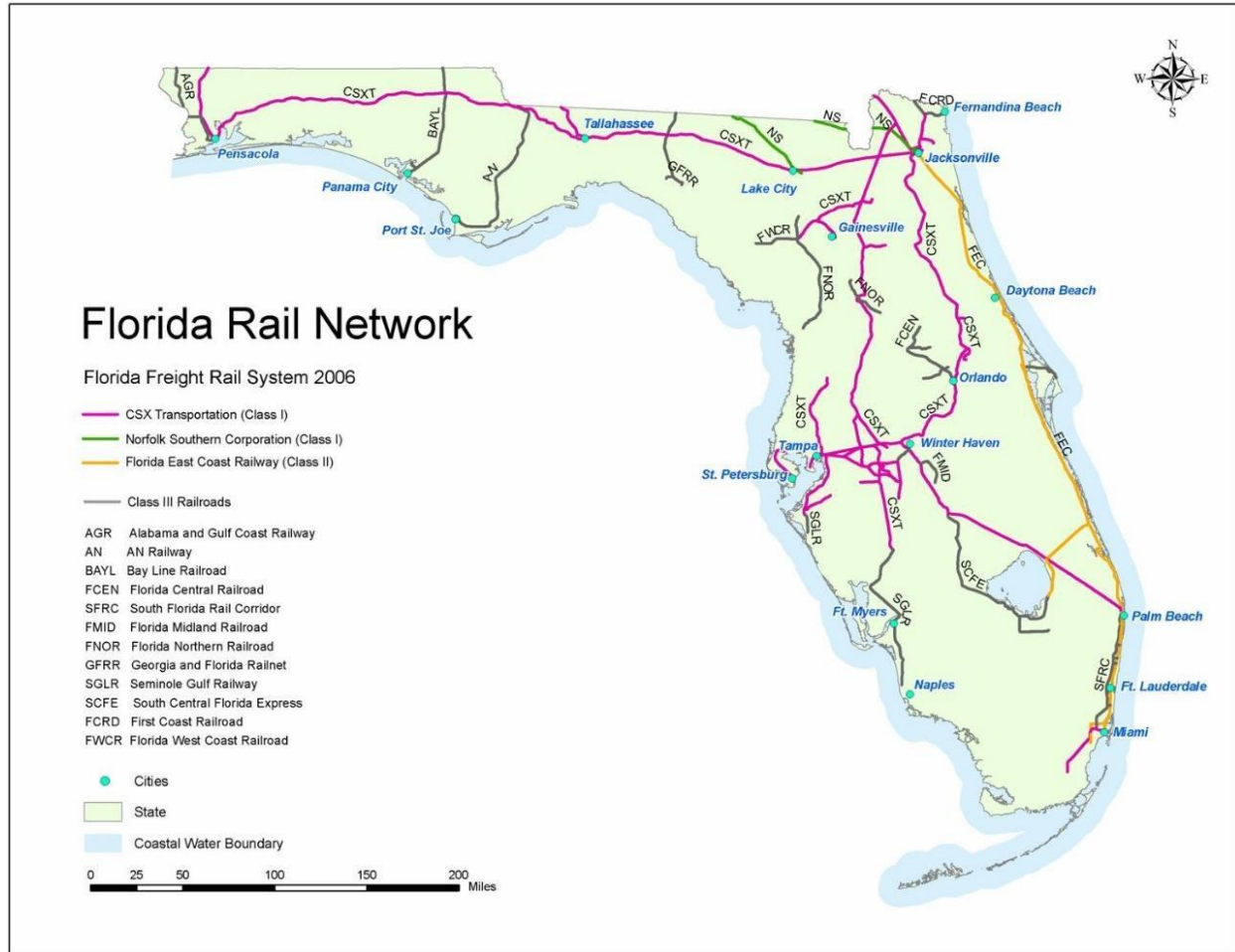
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.78. Page 4-297

Figure 29: Map of transportation corridors, August 2019



Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.75, Page 4-289

Figure 30: Map of freight rail systems



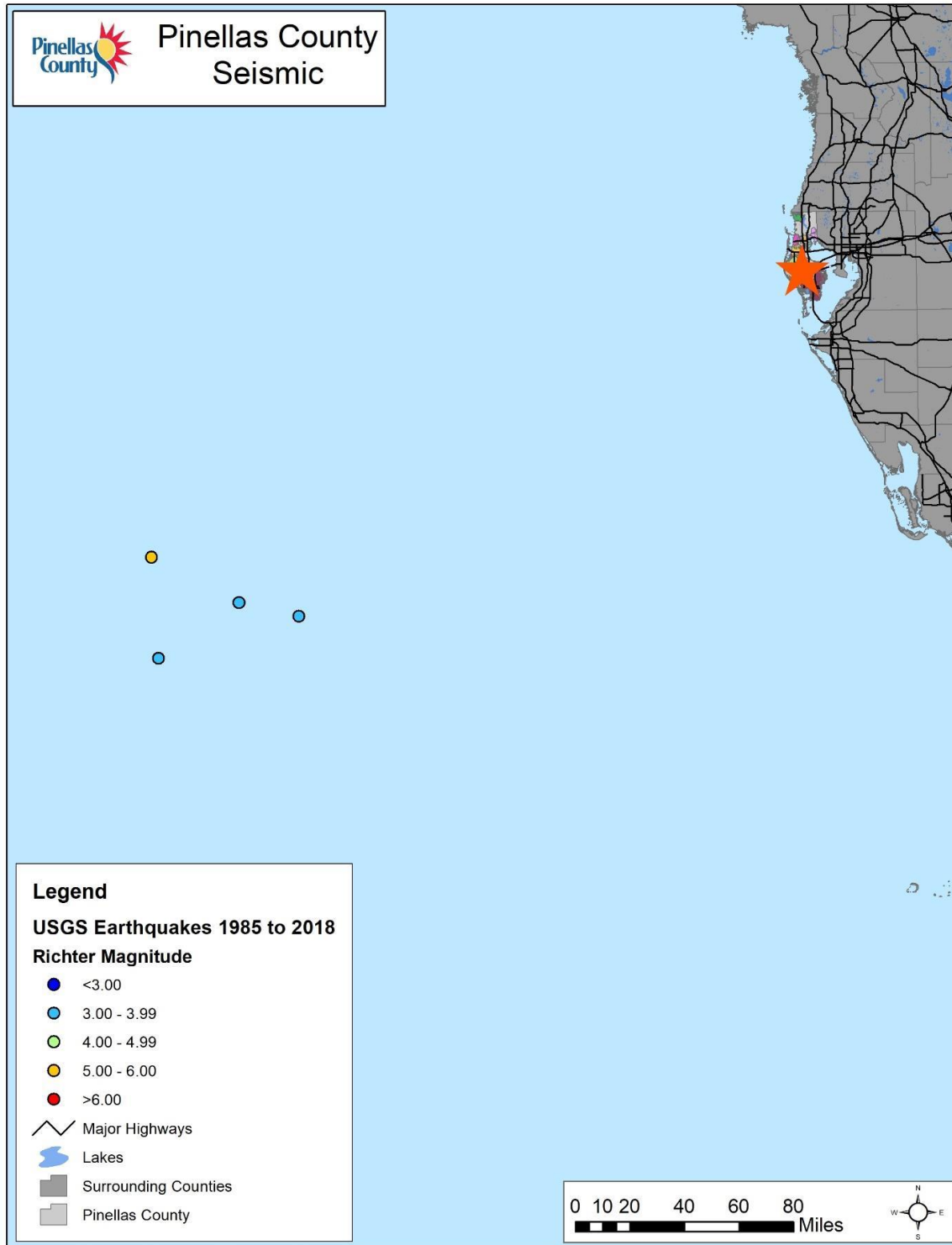
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.80, Page 4-301

Figure 31: Map of Red Tide occurrences offshore the State of Florida, 1957 – 2012



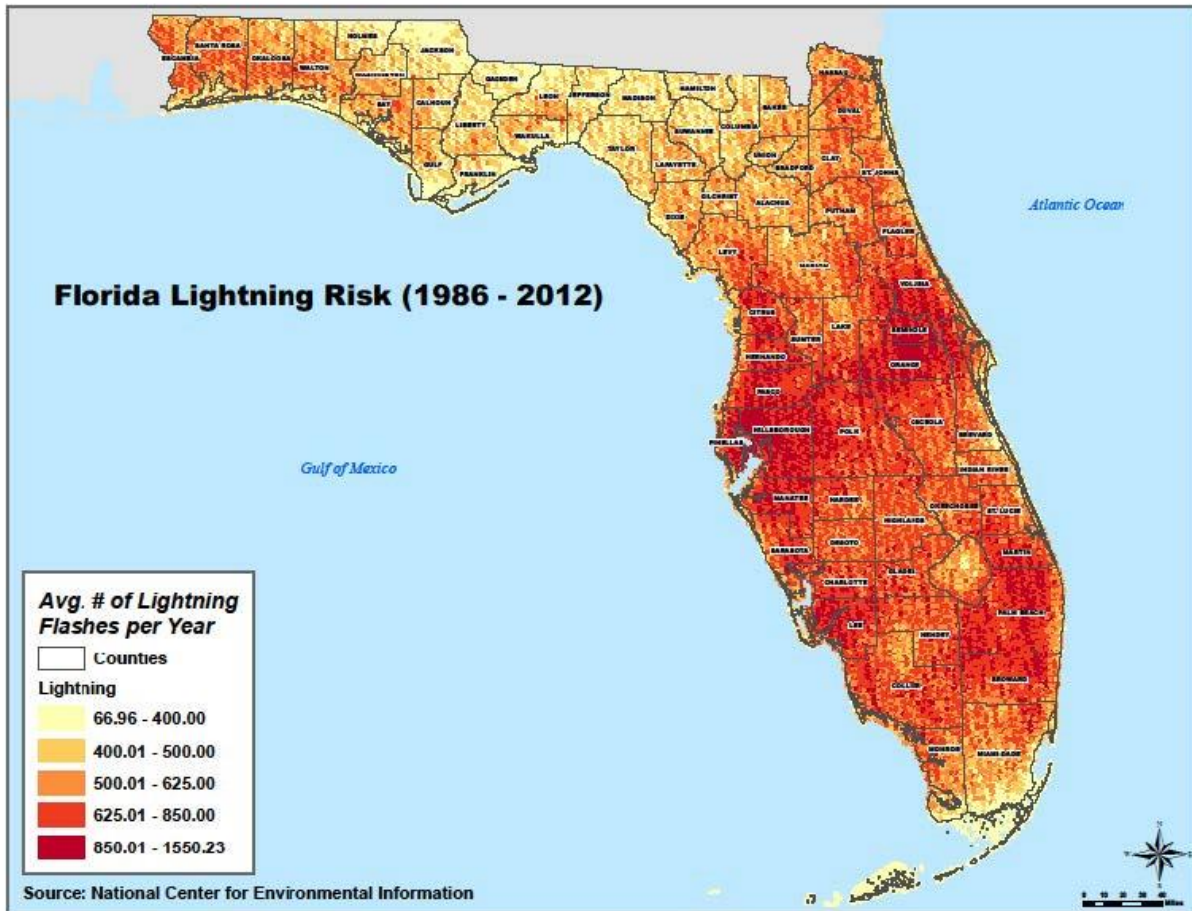
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.74m Page 4-279

Figure 32: Historical seismic incidents nearest to Pinellas County



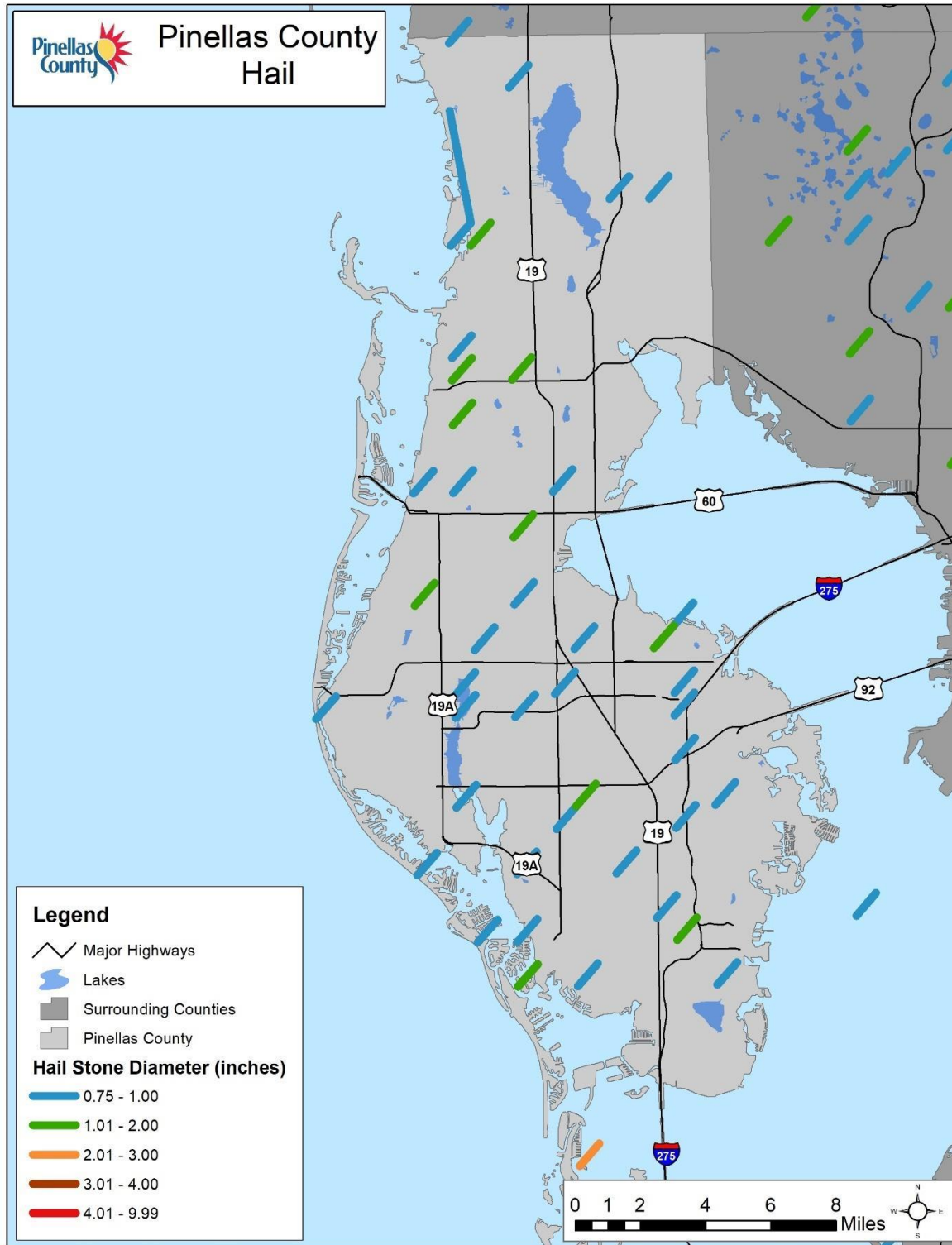
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.70, Page 4-264

Figure 33: Map of lightning risk



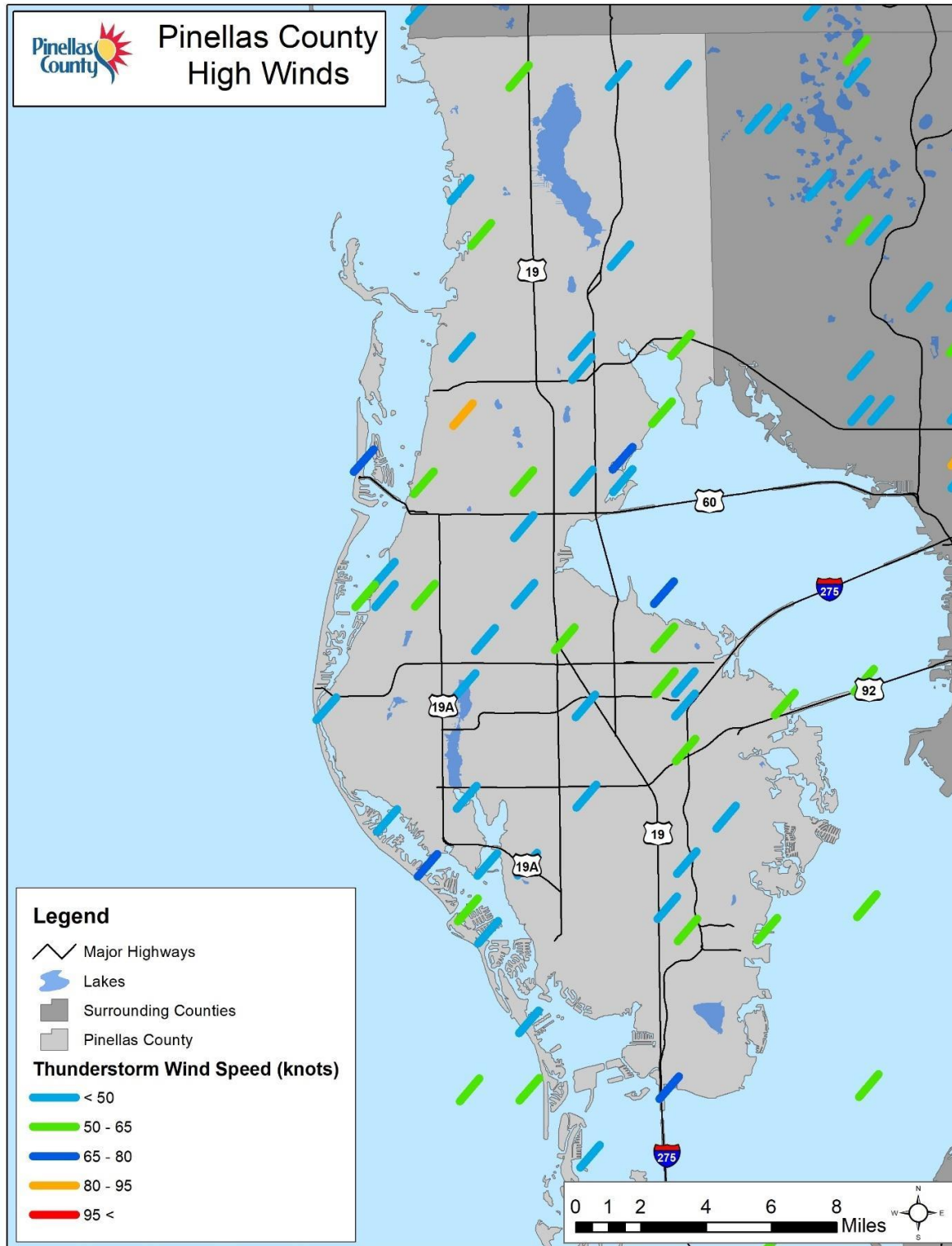
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.41, Page 4-123

Figure 34: Map of historic hail incidents, 1955 – 2017



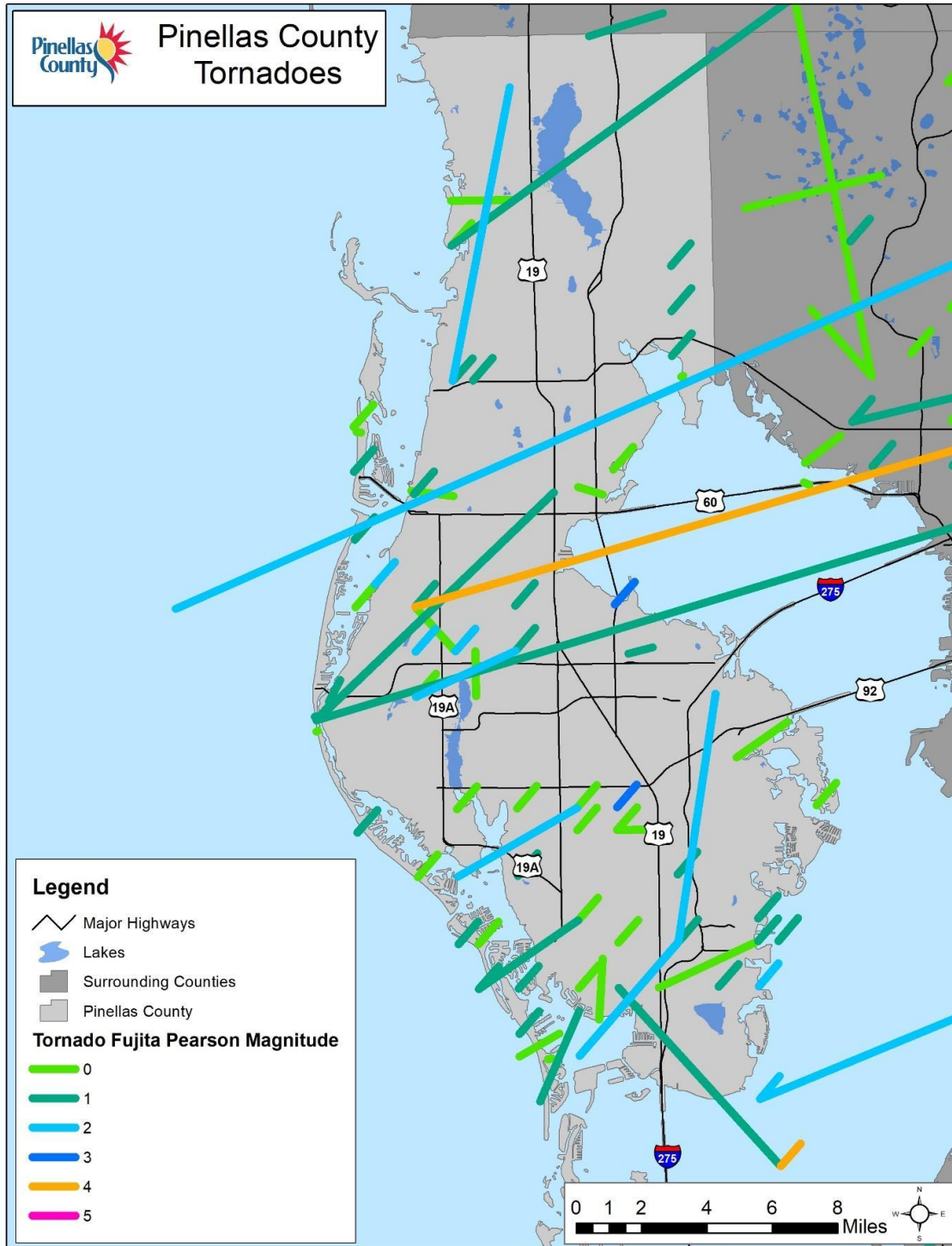
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.42, Page 4-124

Figure 35: Map of historic high wind incidents, 1955 – 2017



Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.43, Page 4-126

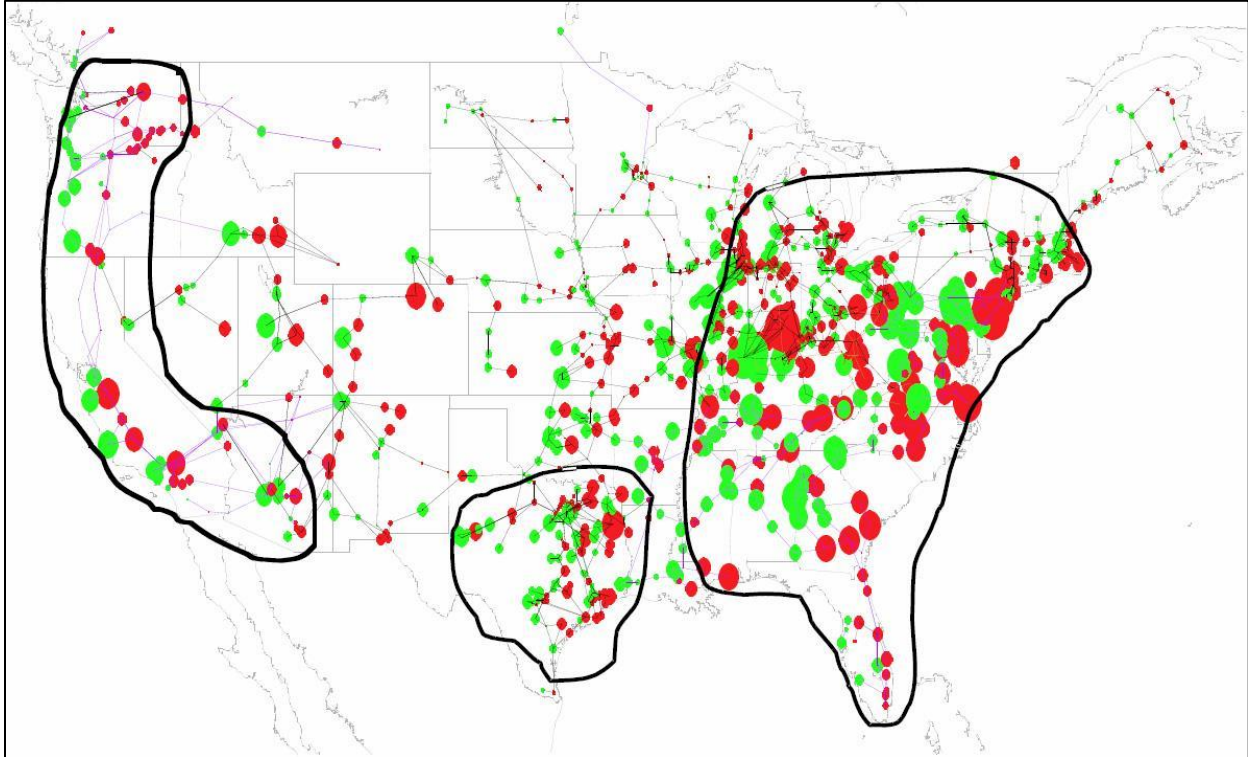
Figure 36: Map of historic tornado tracks, 1950 – 2017



Source; 2020 LMS Figure 4.44, Page 4-128.

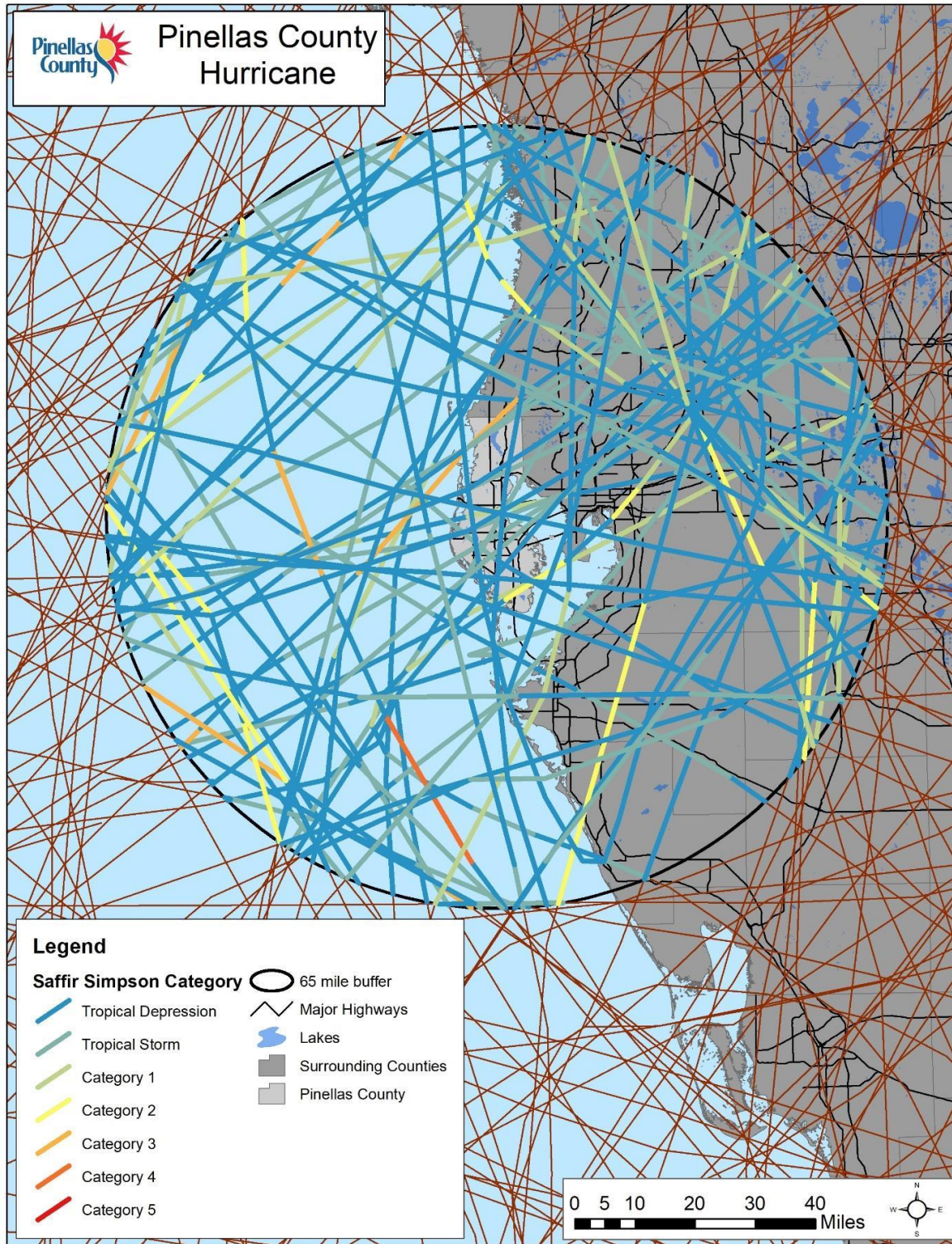
Figure 37: Map of possible space weather impacts, January 2010

Areas susceptible to electric system collapse from a significant space weather incident (outlined in black) from a 100-year geomagnetic storm at 45 degree latitude



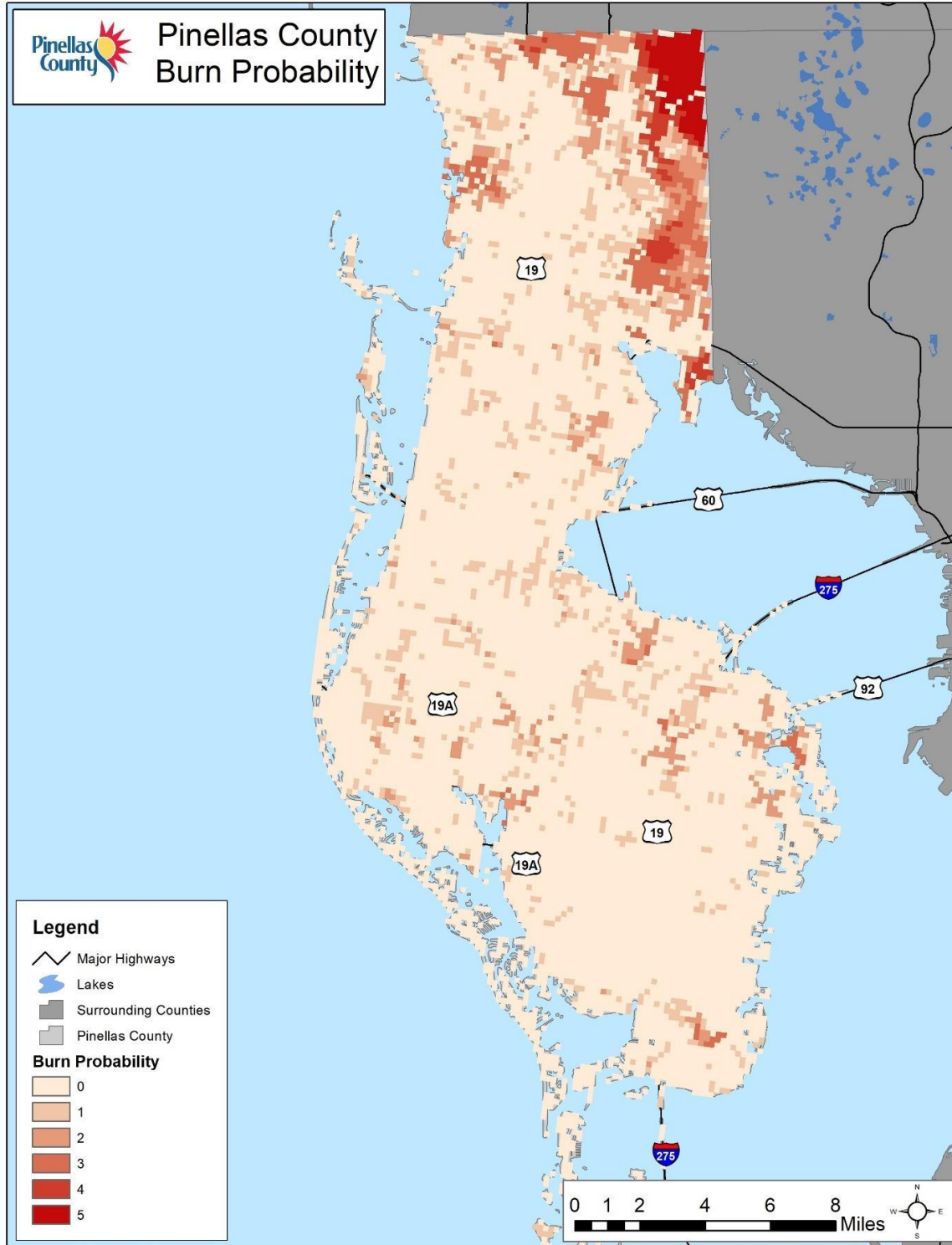
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.81, Page 4-329

Figure 38: Tropical cyclone tracks near or over Pinellas County, 1852 – 2017



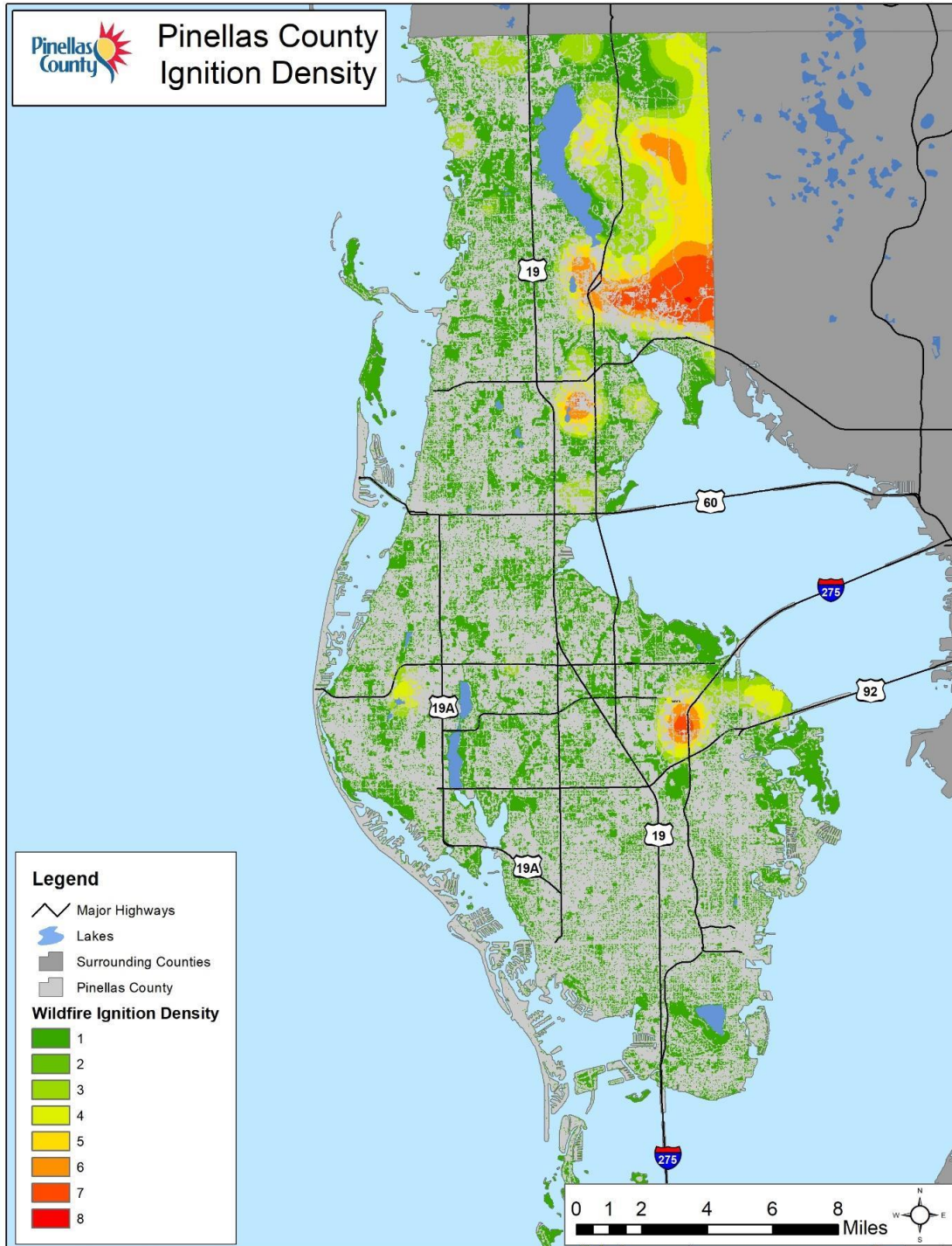
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.30, Page 4-85

Figure 39: Map of burn probabilities, March 2020.



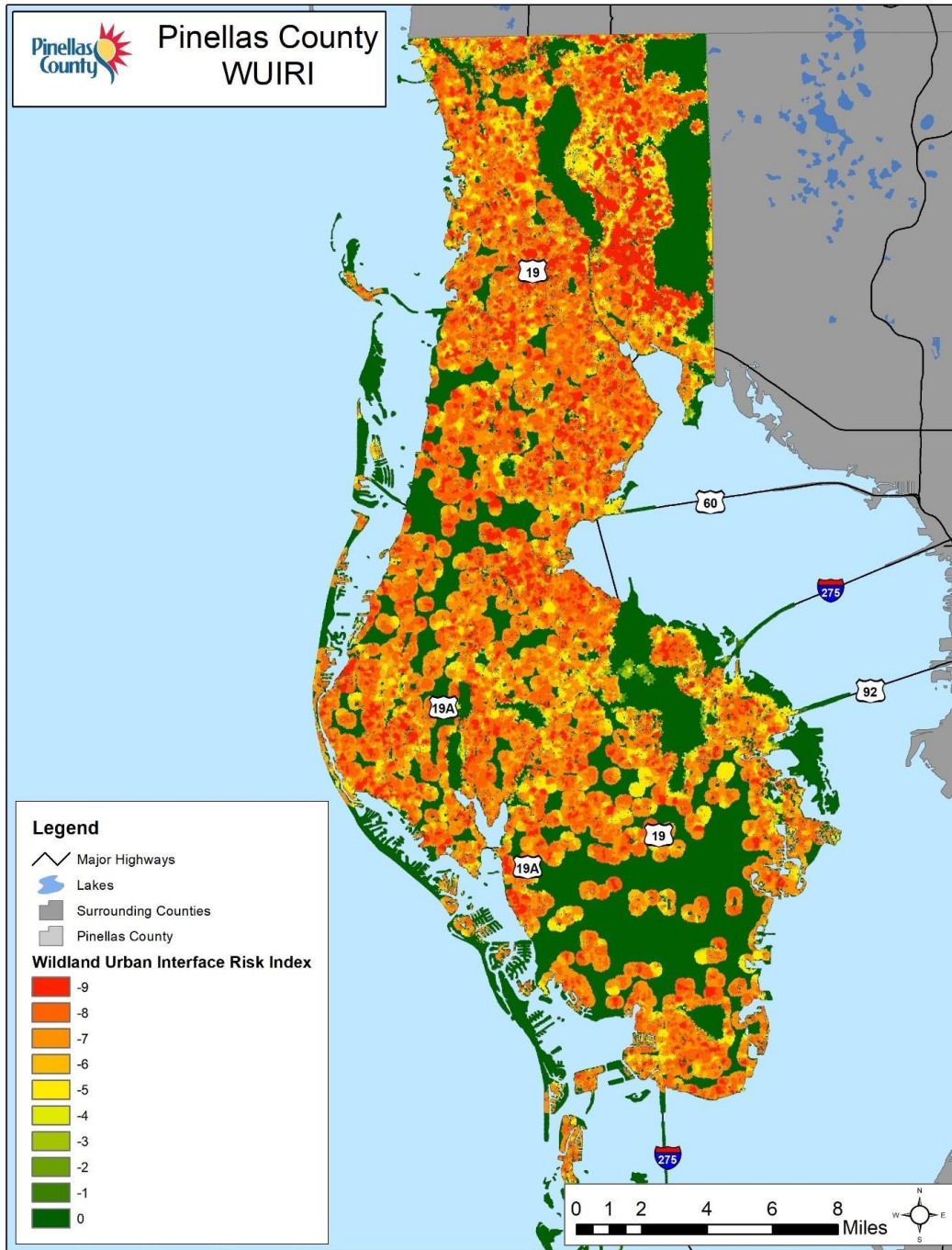
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.49, Page 4-183

Figure 40: Map of wildfire ignition density, March 2014



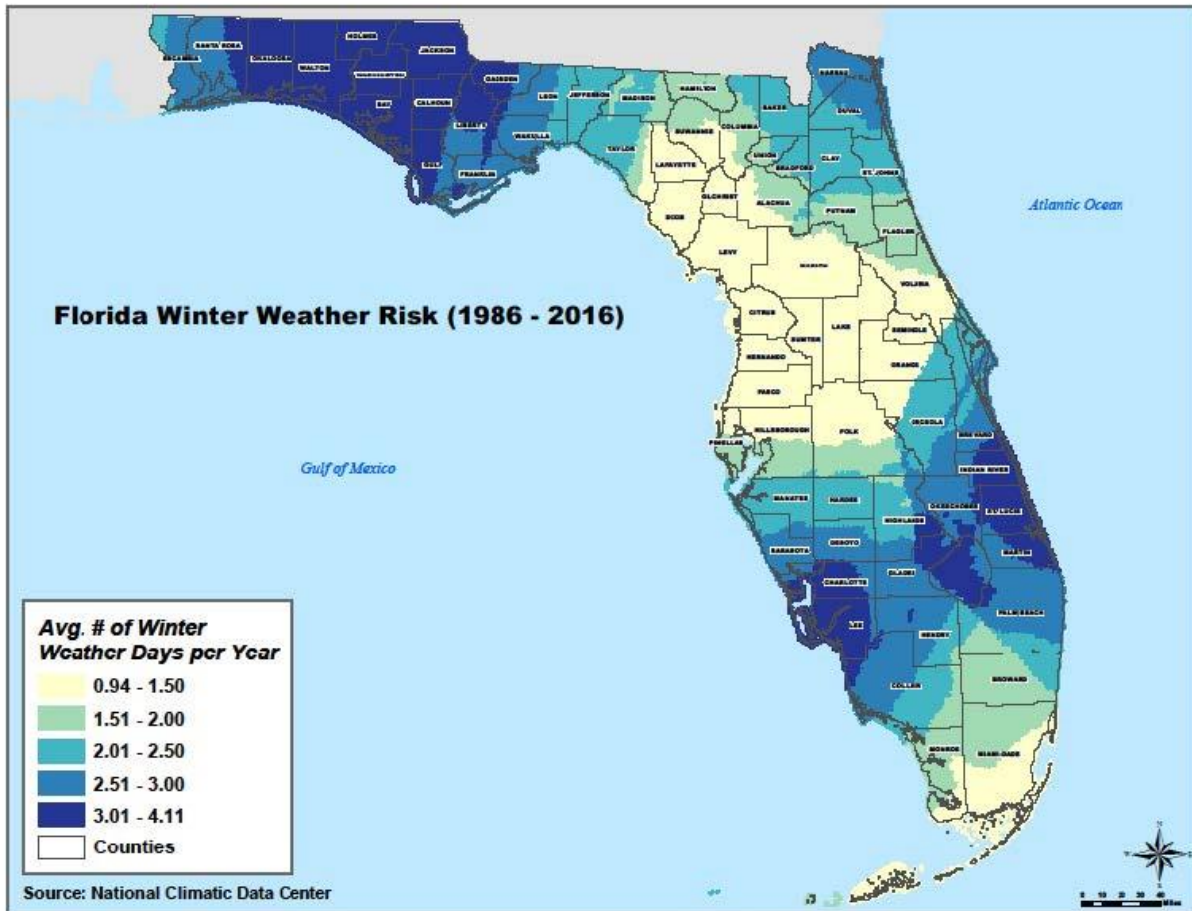
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.48, Page 4-181

Figure 41: Map of wildfire urban interface risk index, March 2014



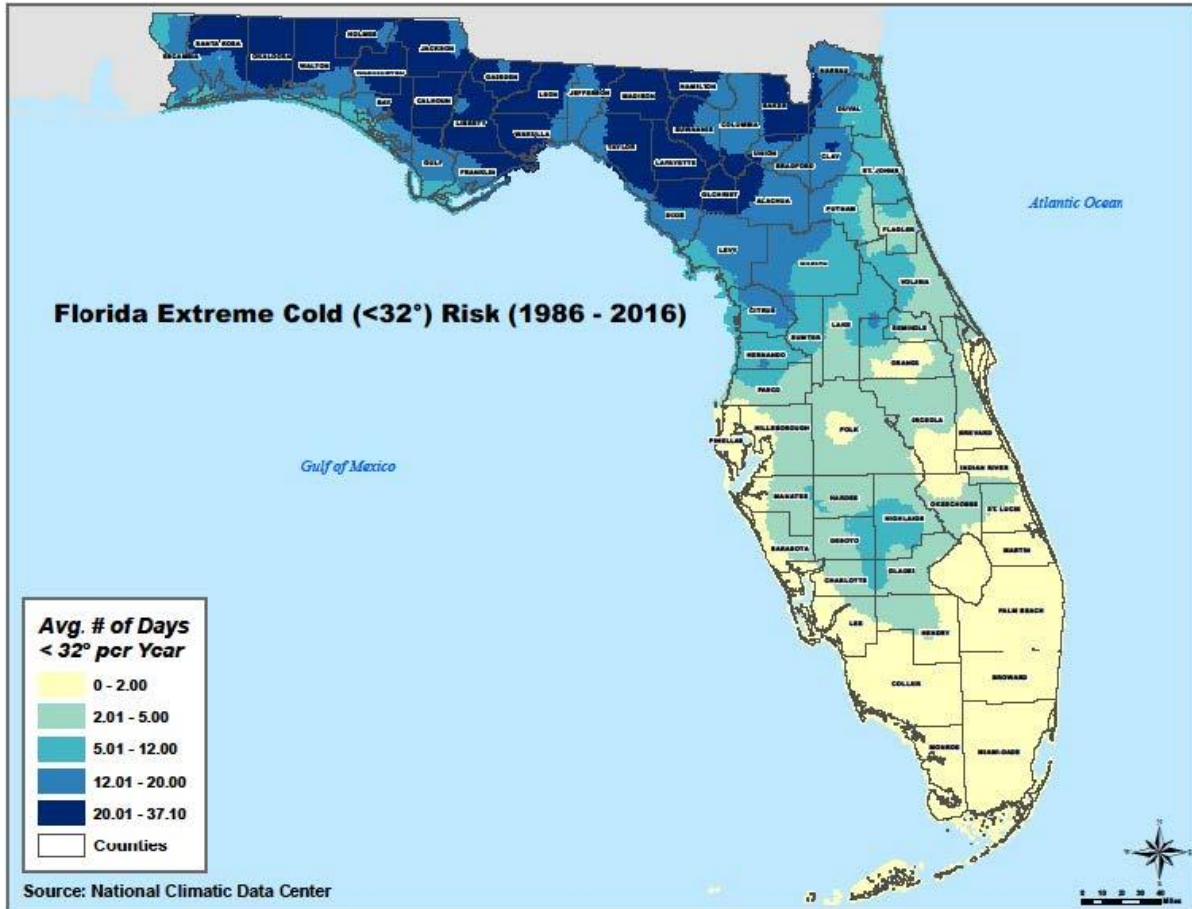
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.52, Page 4-187

Figure 42: Map of winter weather risk in the State of Florida



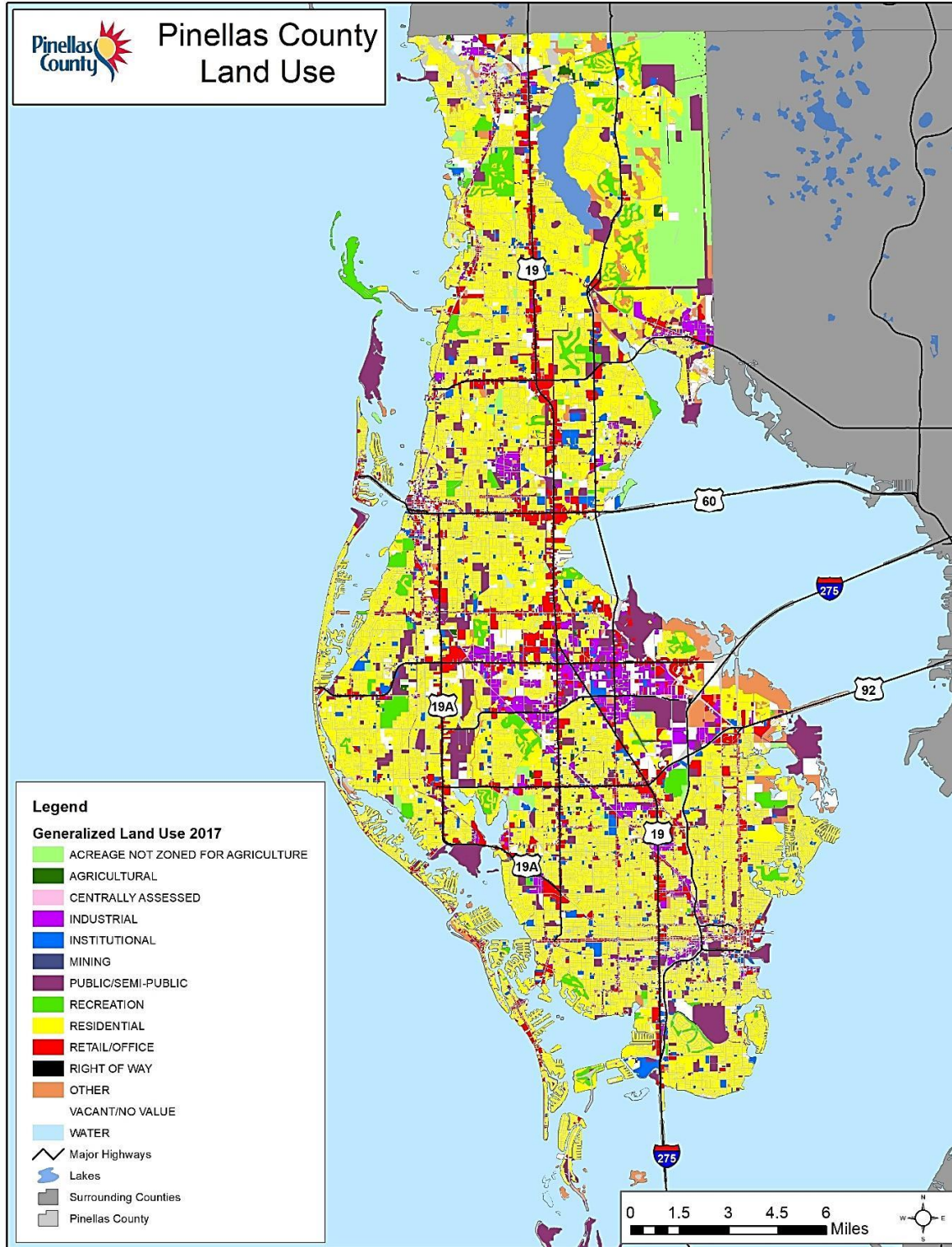
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.67, Page 4-251

Figure 43: Map of extreme cold risk in the State of Florida



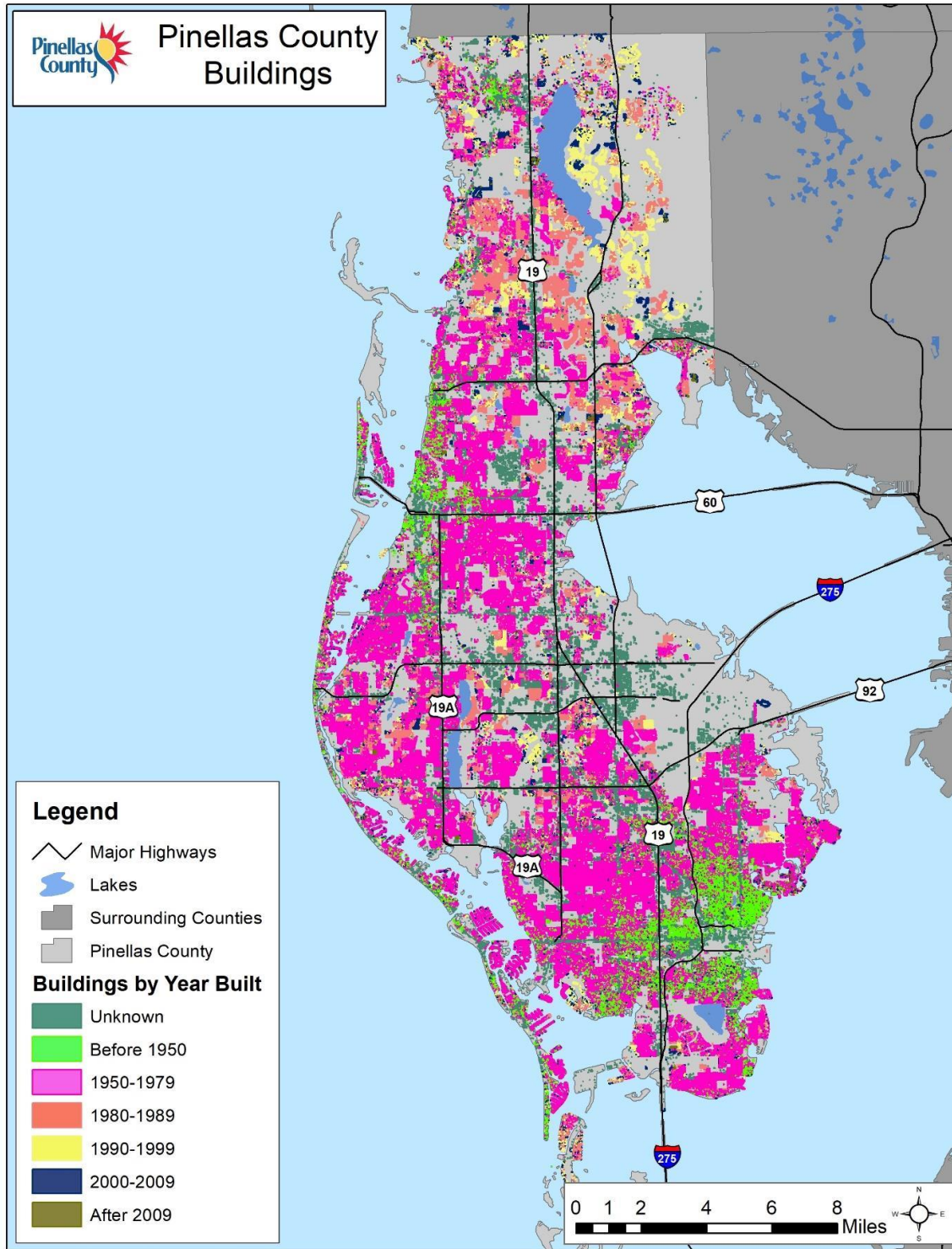
Source: 2020 LMS, Figure 4.68, Page 4-252

Figure 44: Map of land use in Pinellas County, 2017



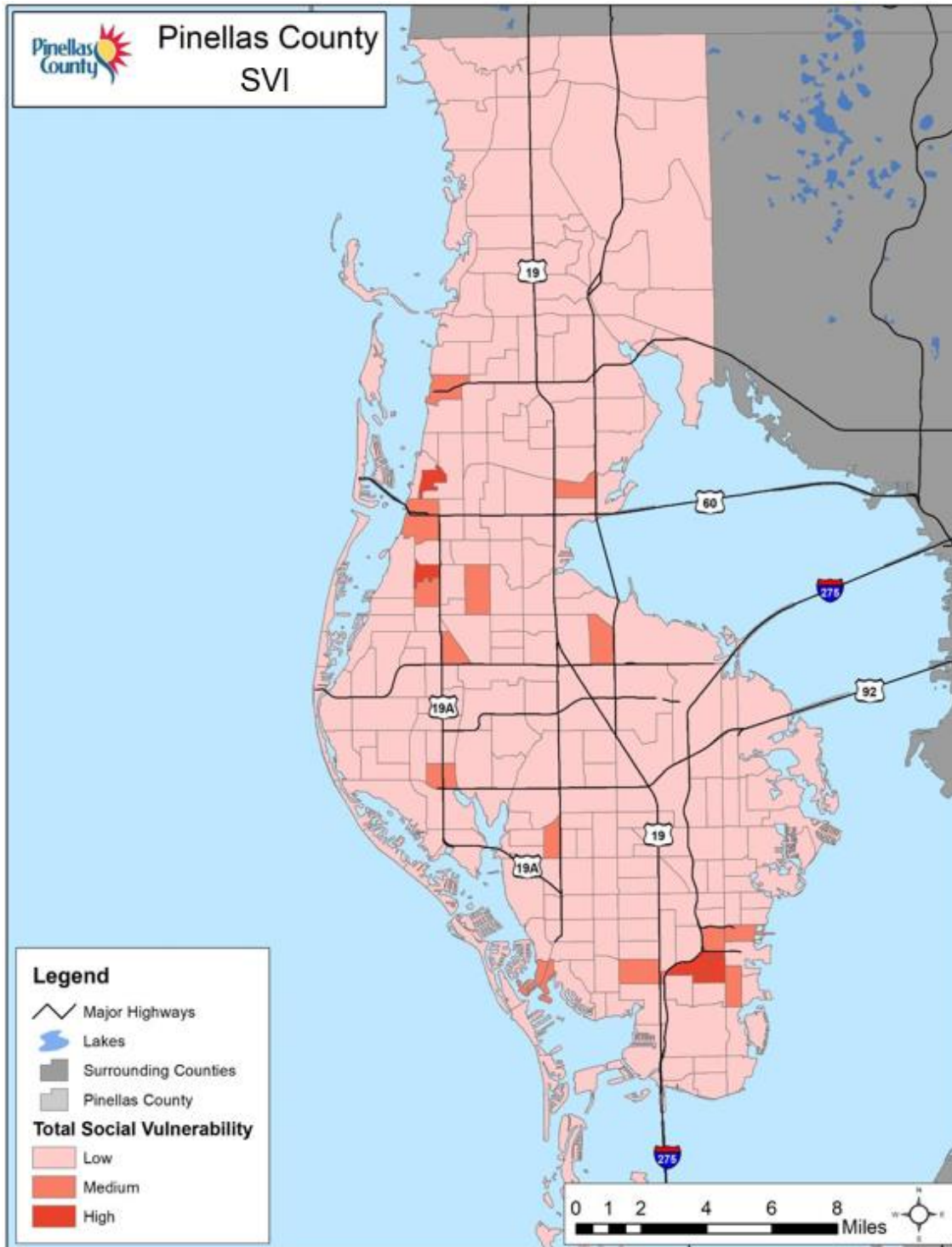
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 1.6, Page 1-24.

Figure 45: Map of buildings in Pinellas County by year built, March 2020



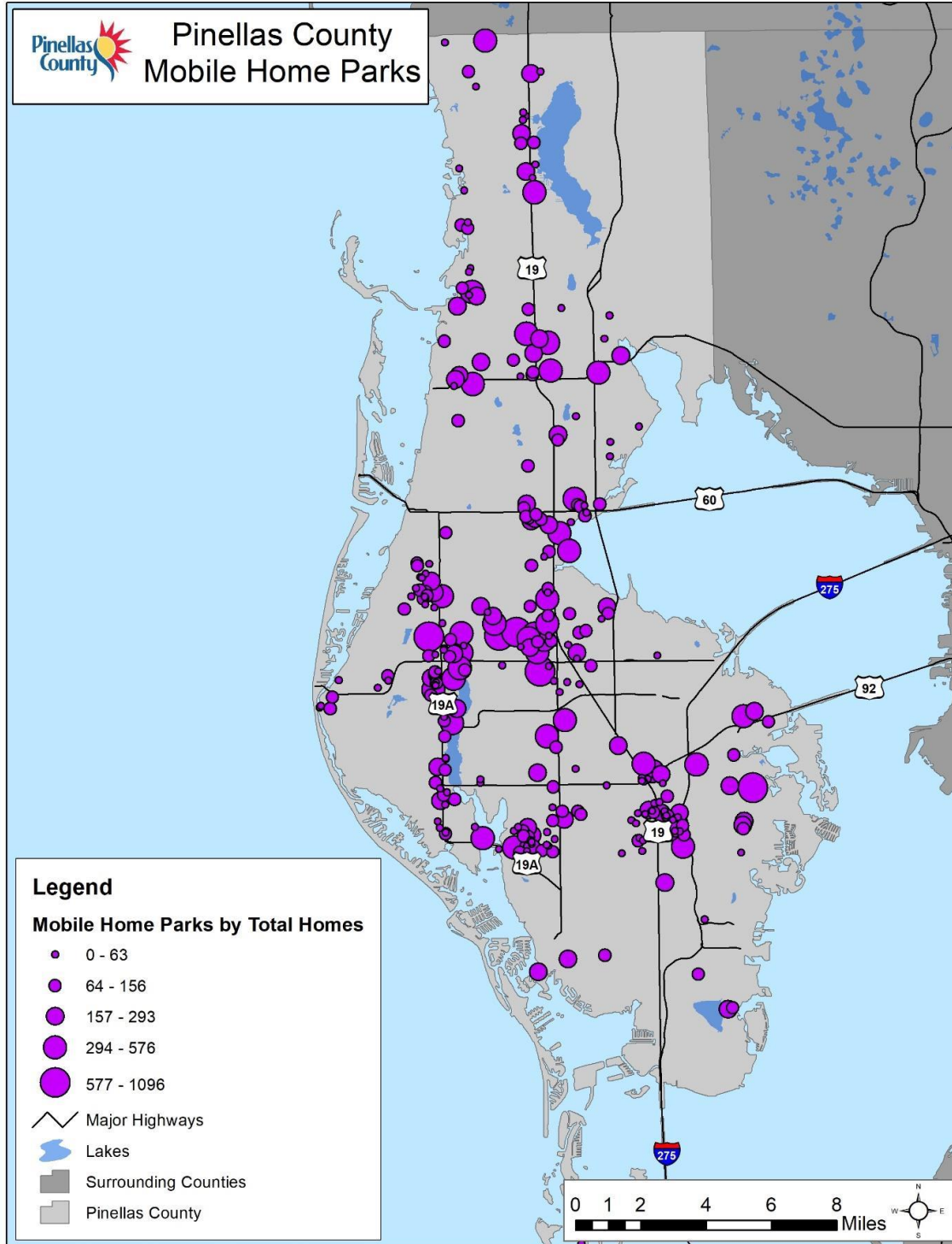
Source: 2020 LMS, Figure 4.1, Page 4-10

Figure 46: Map of total SVI, 2010



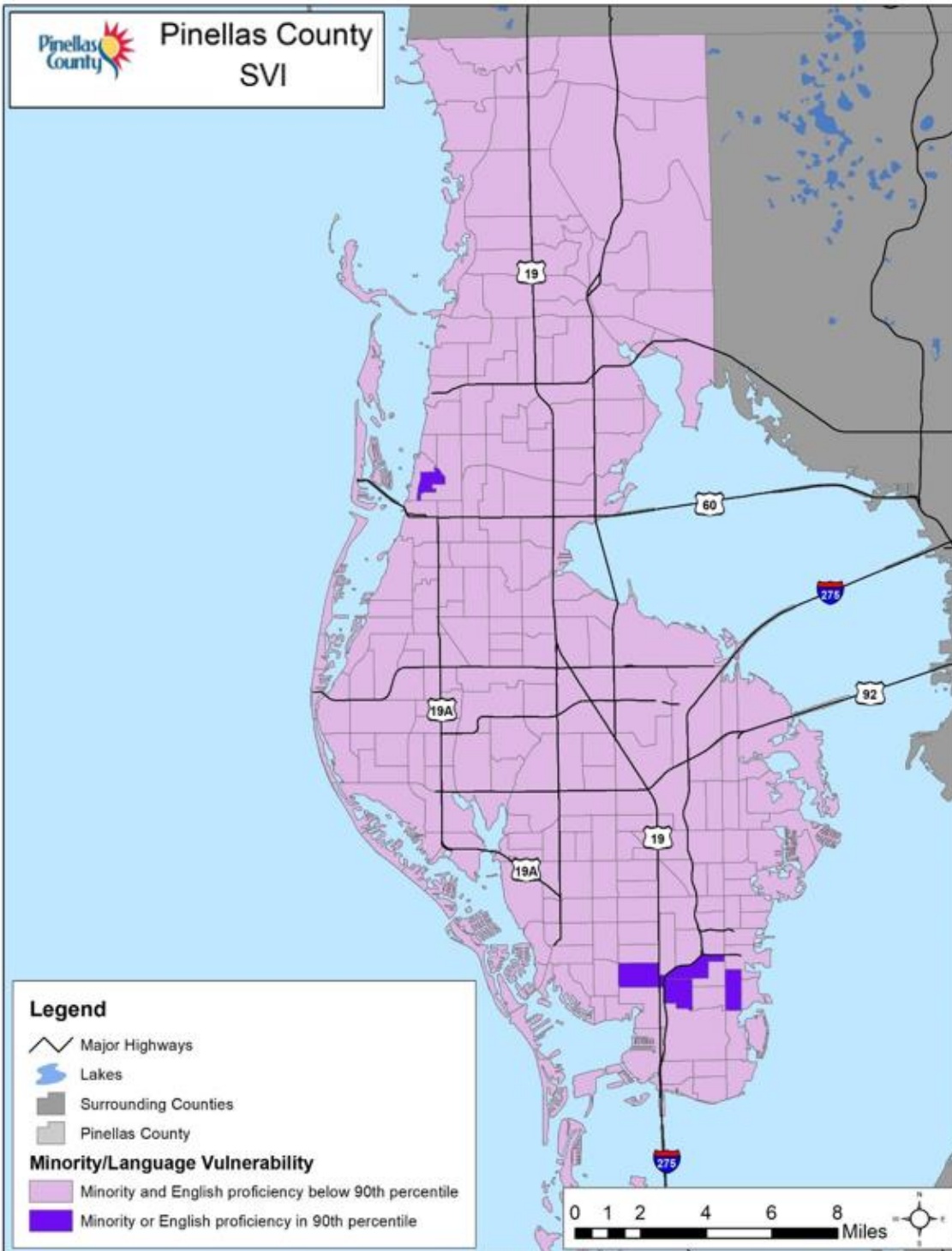
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4-11, Page 4-22

Figure 47: Map of mobile home parks, March 2020



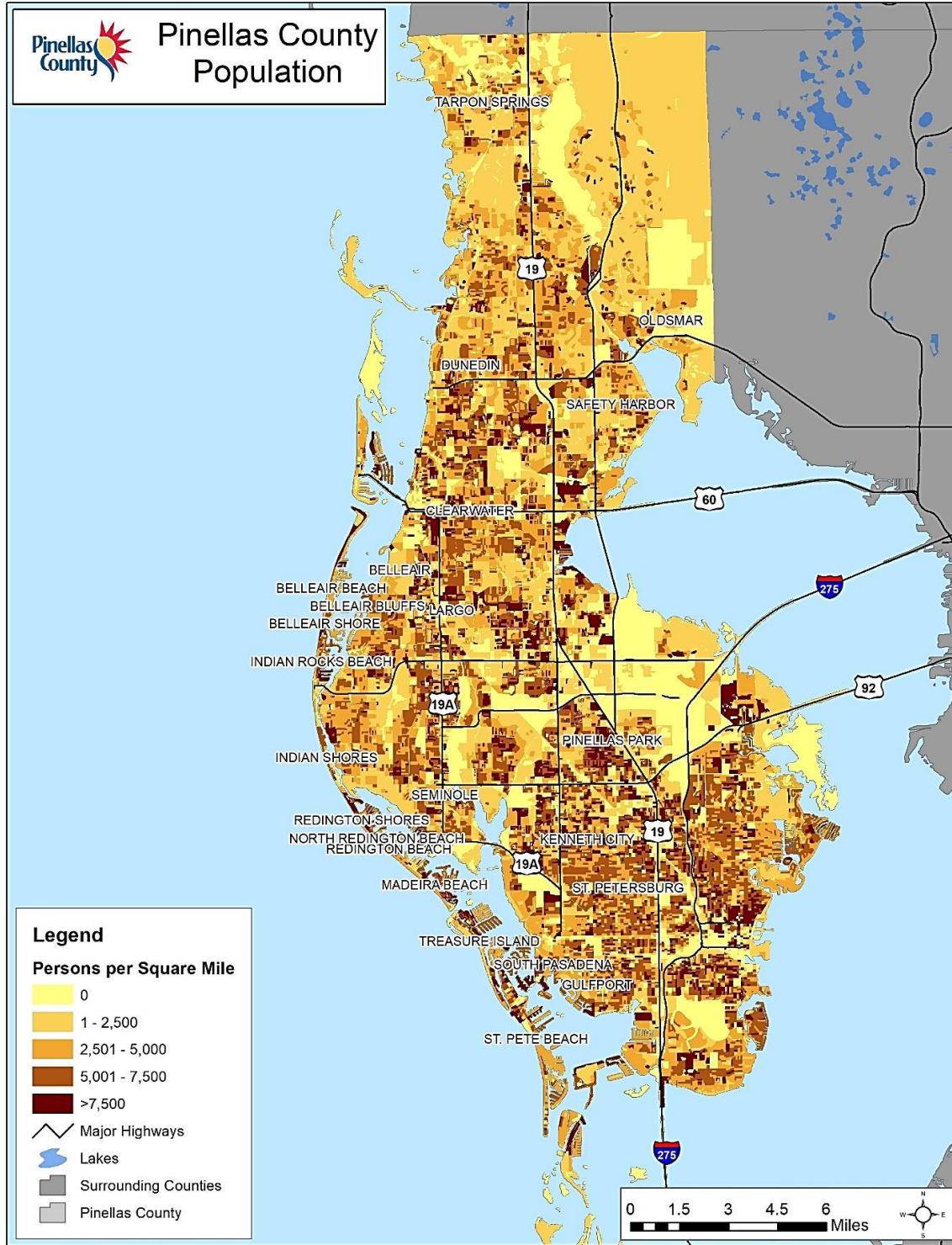
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.2, Page 4-11

Figure 48: Map of English language proficiency, 2010



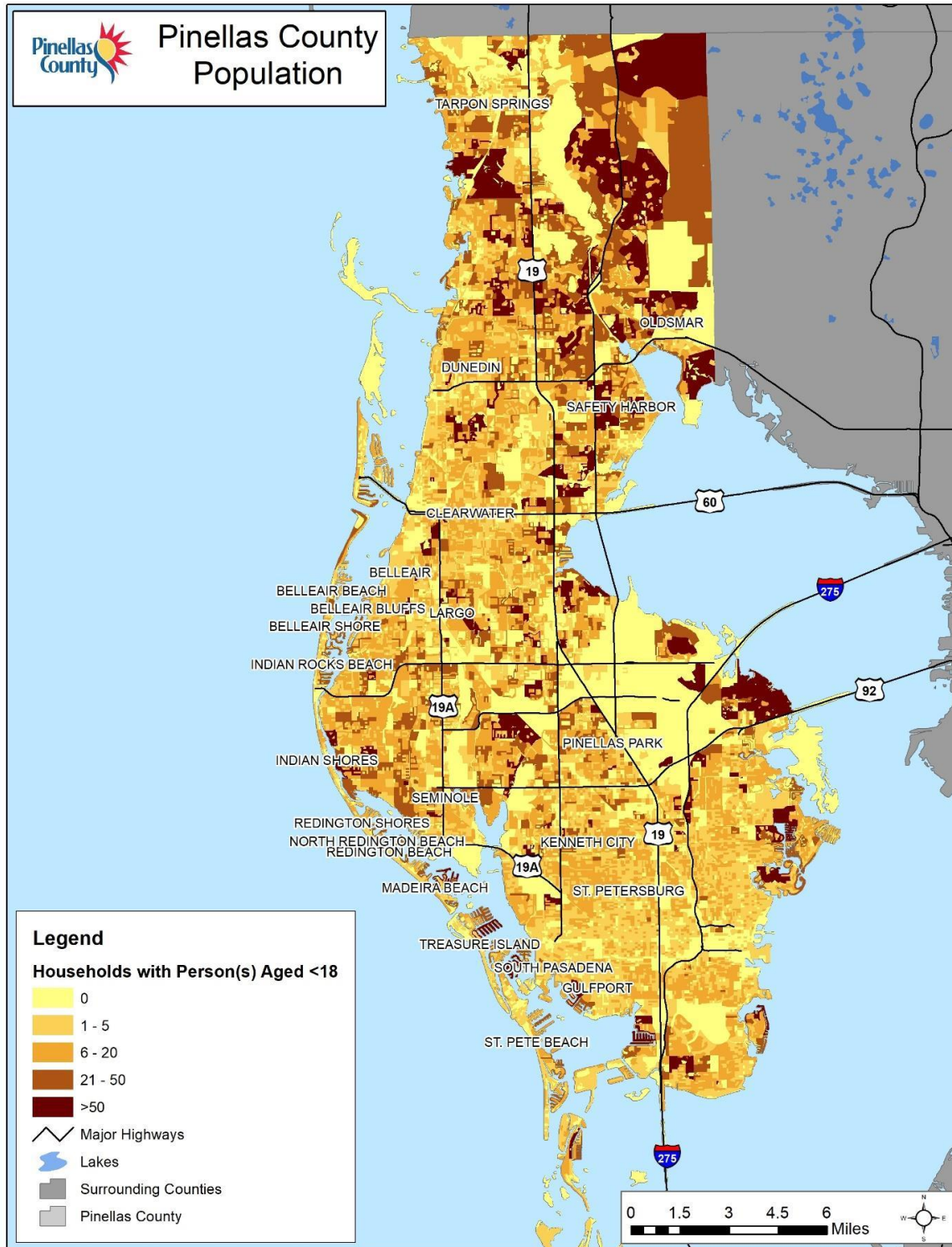
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.14, Page 4-25

Figure 49: Map of population density in Pinellas County, 2010



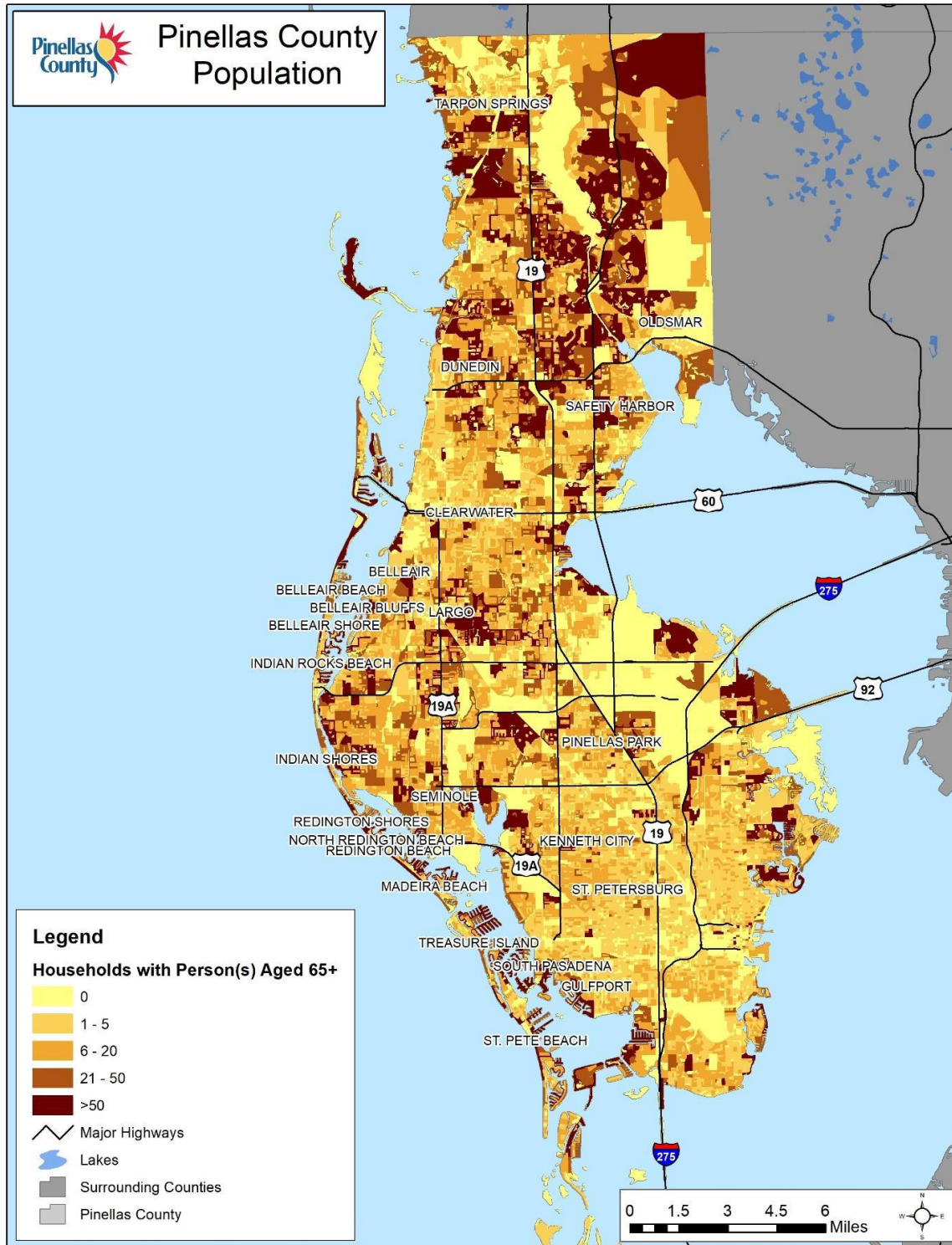
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.8m Page 4-19

Figure 50: Density of households with persons less than 18 YOA, 2010



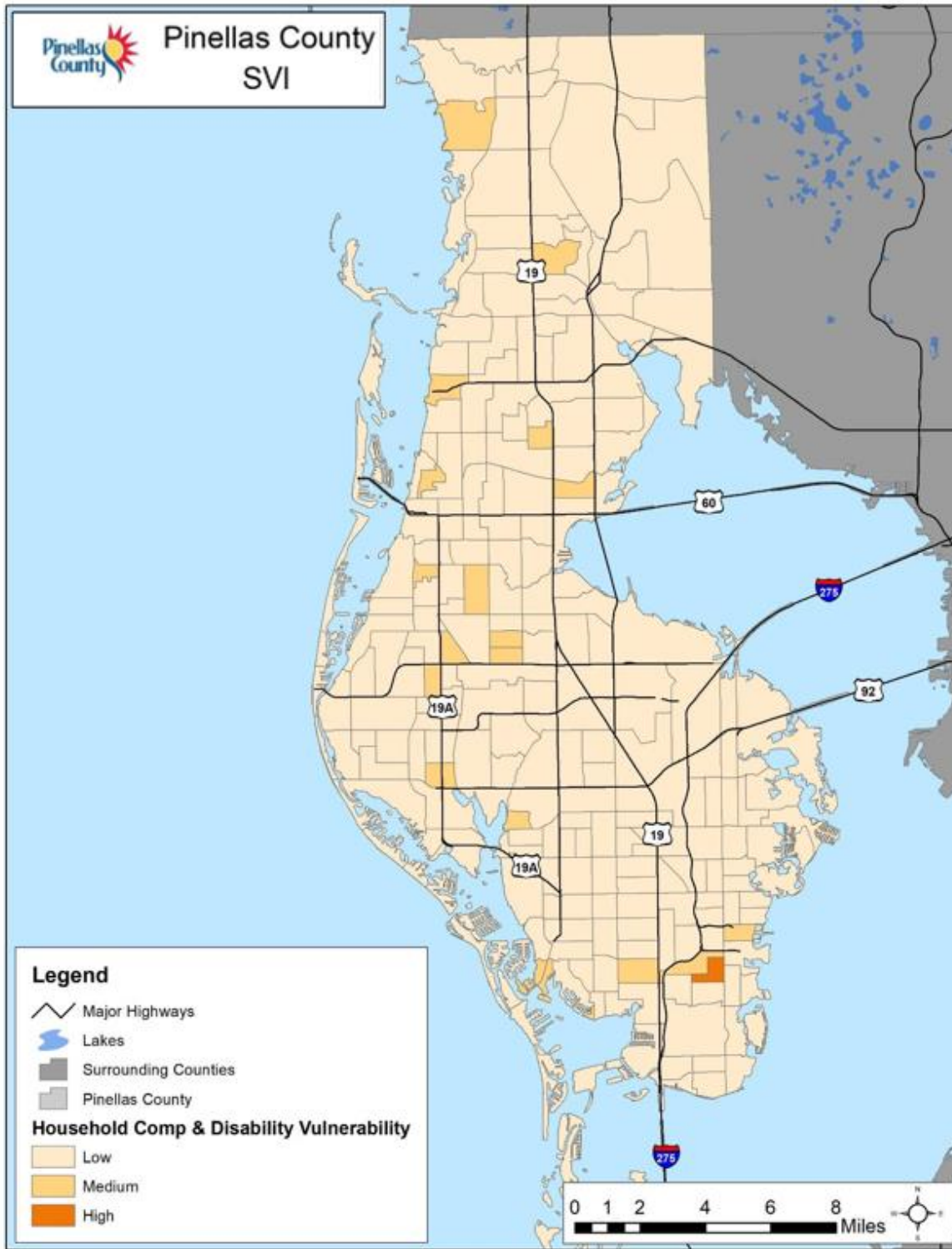
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.9, Page 4-20

Figure 51: Population household density with persons greater than 65, 2010



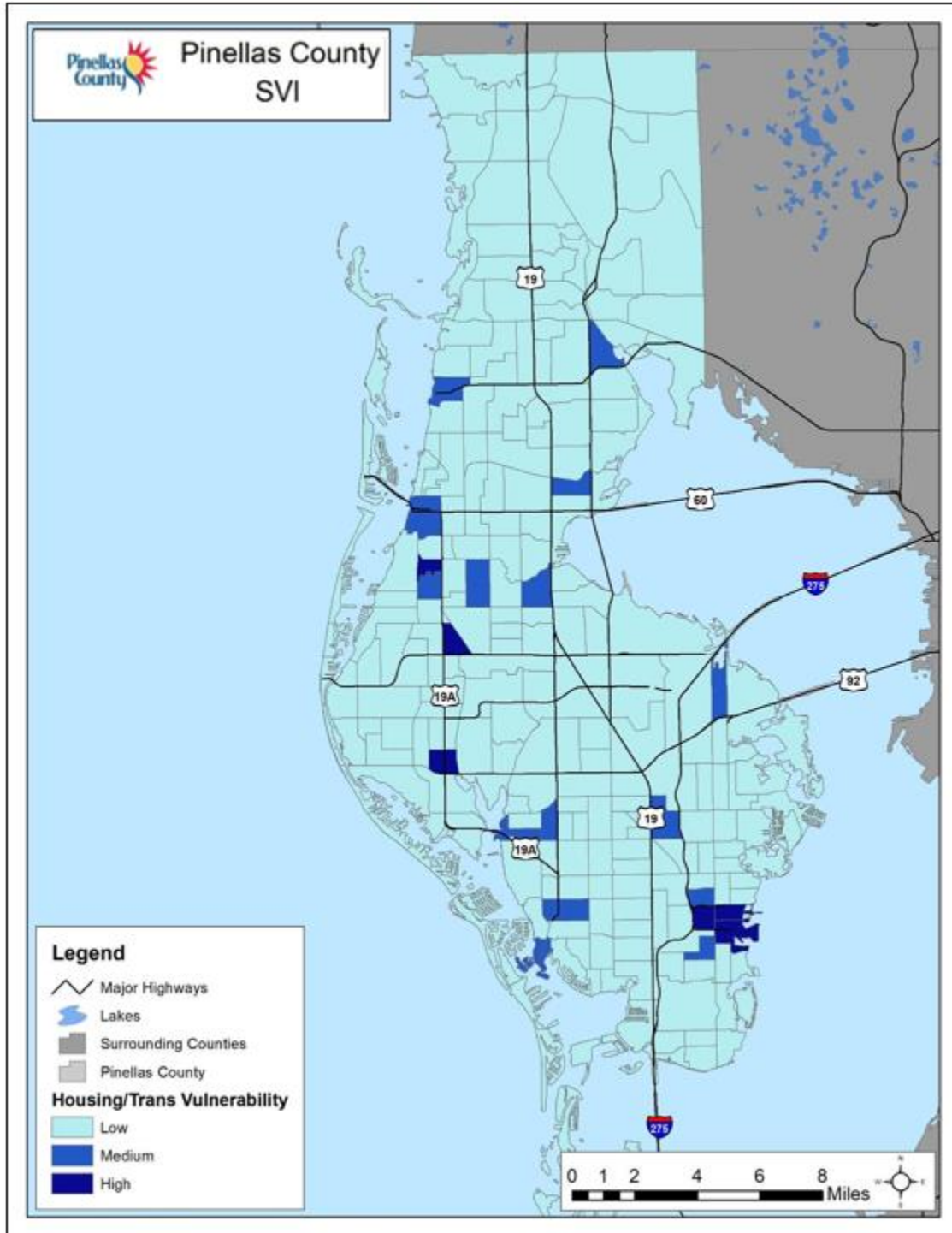
Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.10, Page 4-21

Figure 52: Map of SVI focusing on disabilities, 2010



Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.12, Page 4-23

Figure 53: Map of housing and transient SVI, 2010



Source: 2020 LMS Figure 4.15, Page 4-26

Figure 54: Pinellas County Government Organizational Chart, July 2021

The organization chart may change over time, and the latest version can be found at <http://www.pinellascounty.org/budget/GeneralOrgChart.pdf>.

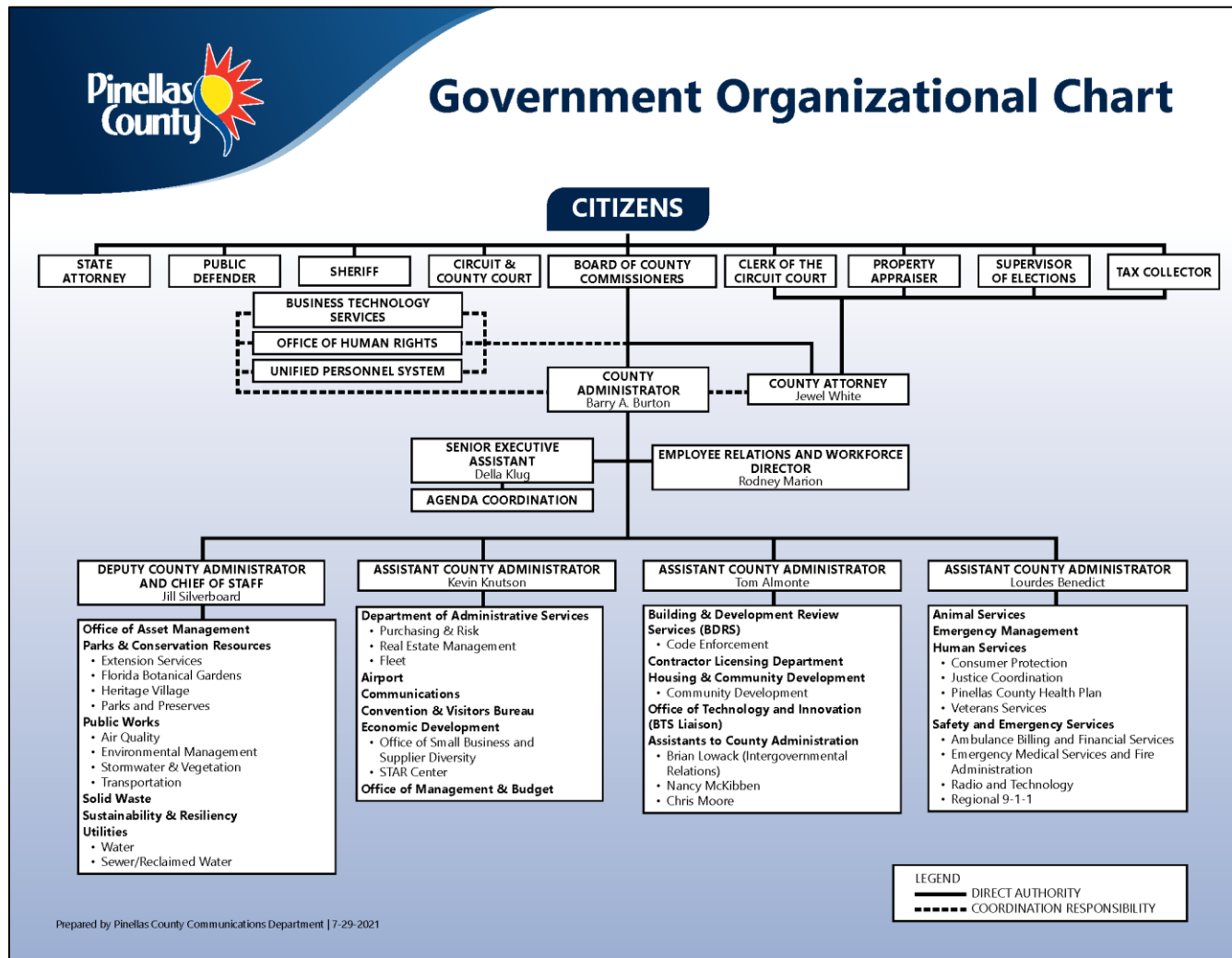


Figure 55: PCEM department organization, April 2021

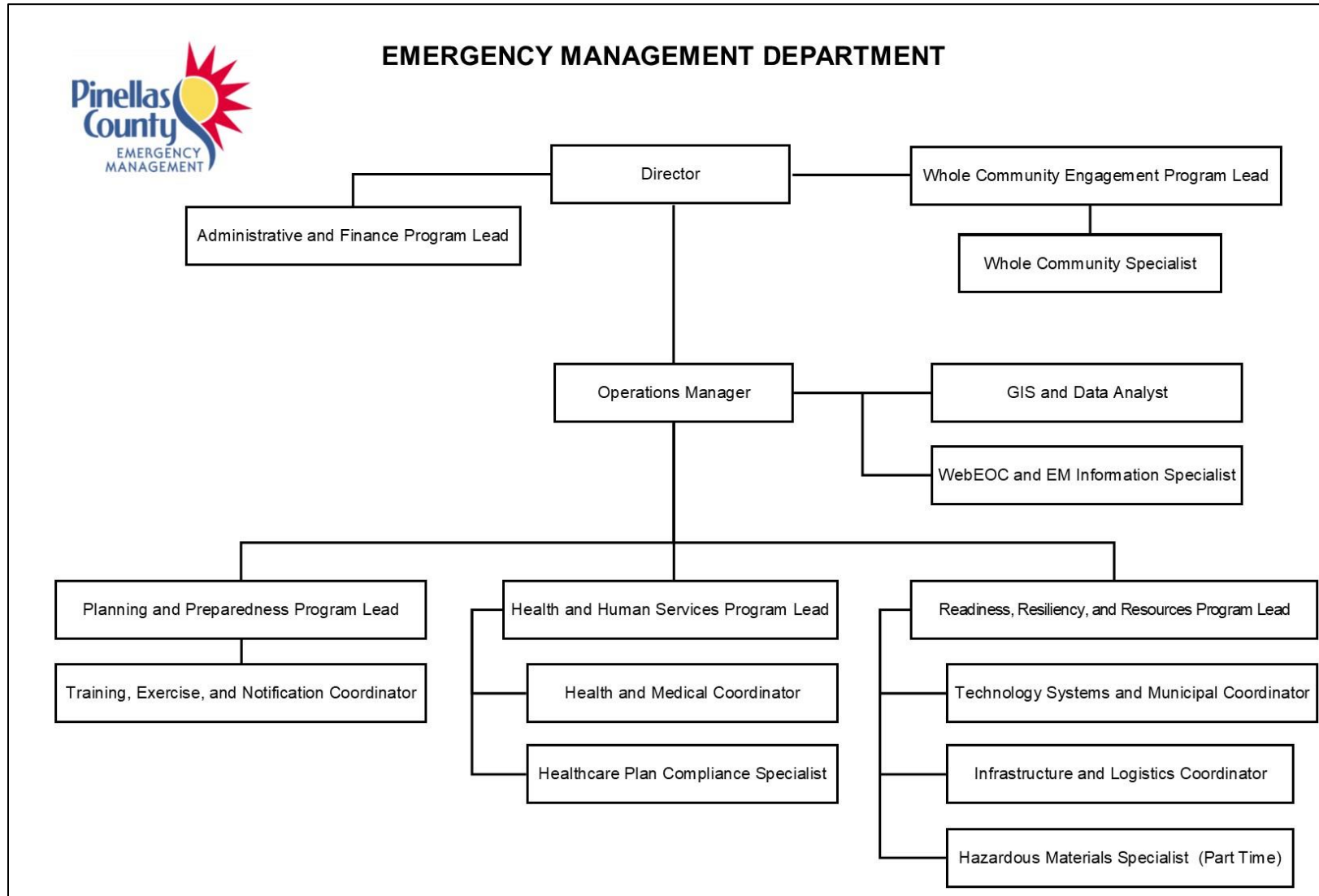
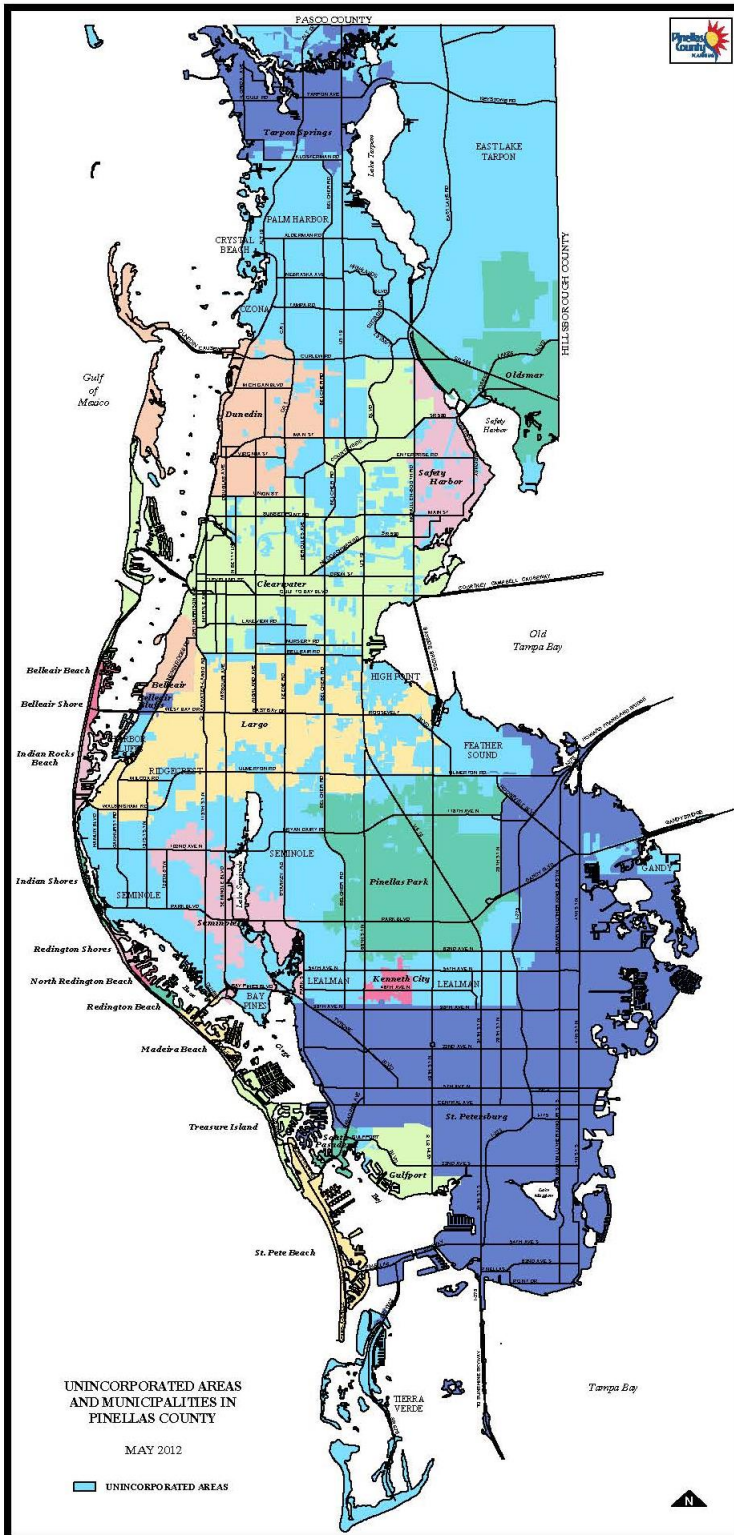


Figure 56: Map of unincorporated and municipal areas, May 2012



Source: <http://www.pinellascounty.org/municipalities.htm>.

Figure 57: Pinellas County ESFs



Figure 58: EOC organization structure

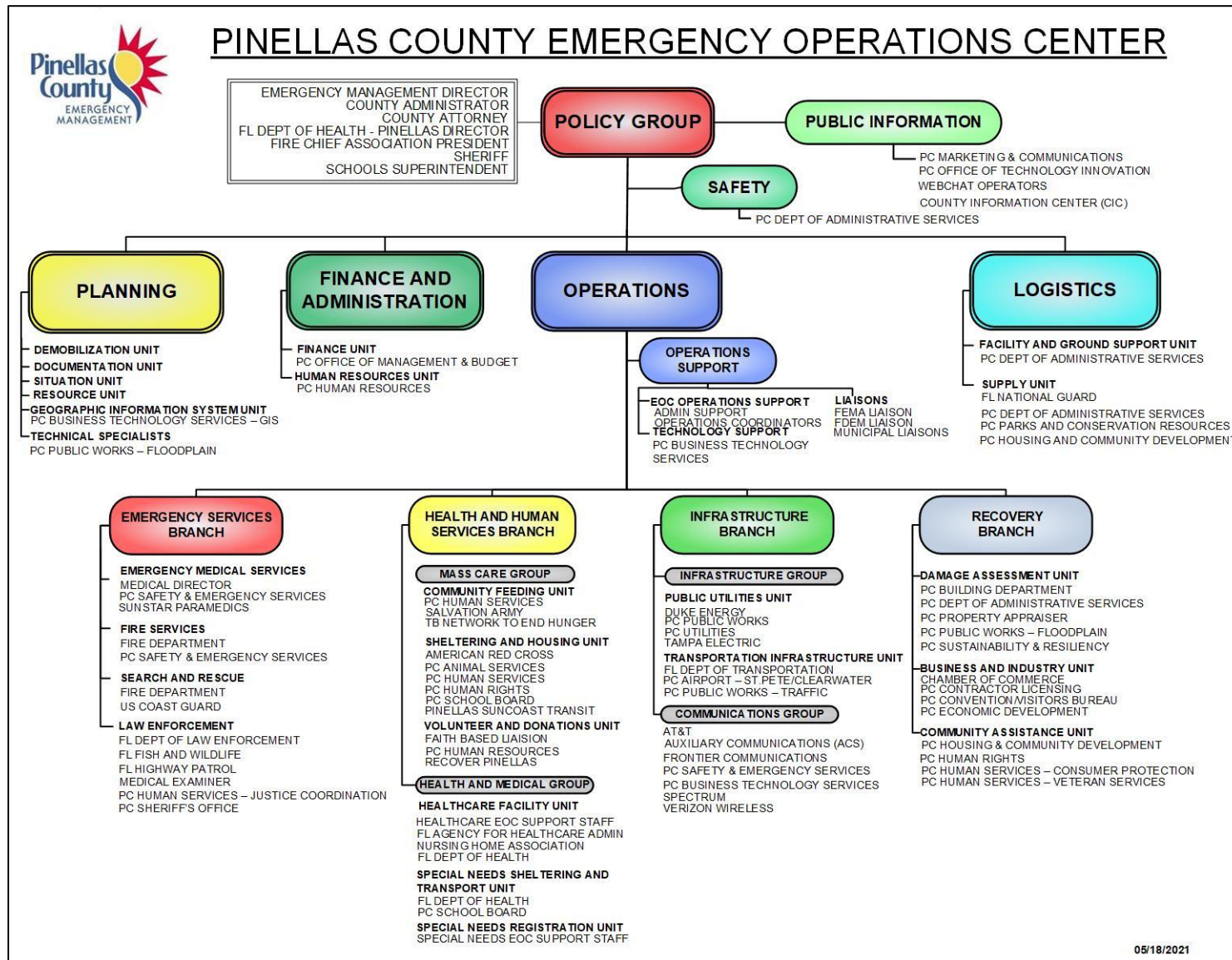


Figure 59: EOC task assignment and resource request process

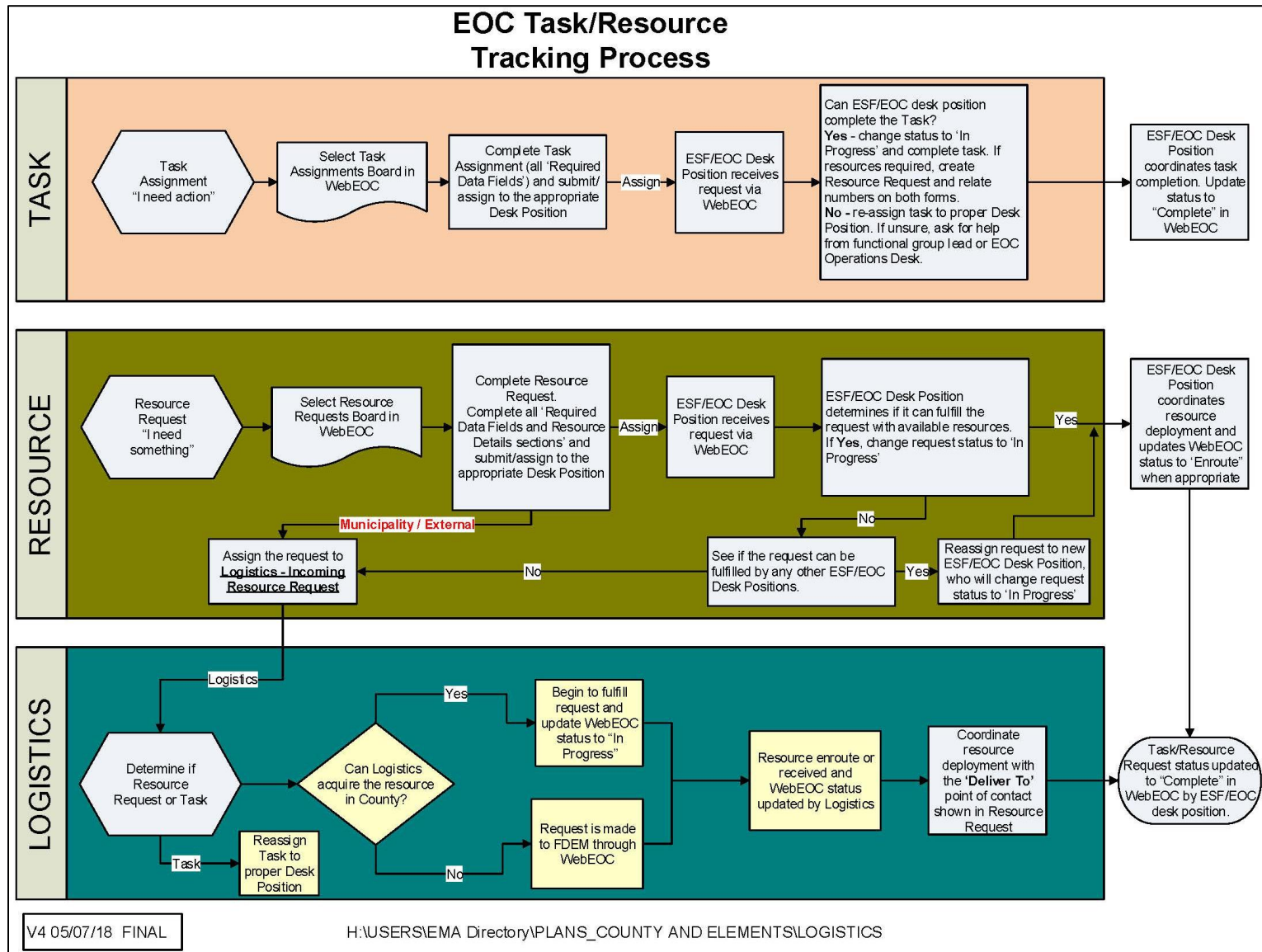
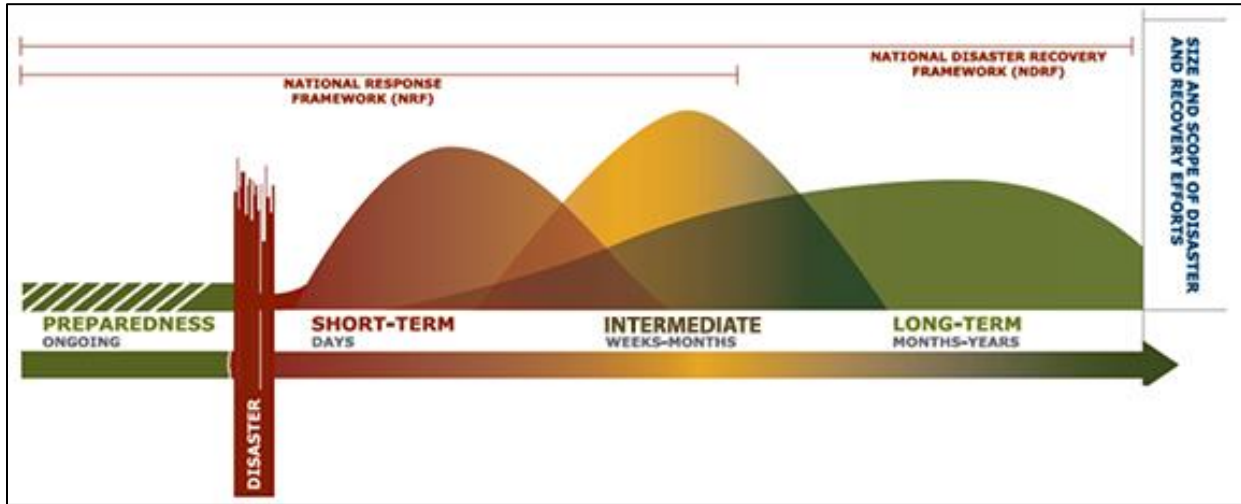


Figure 60: Diagram of the response and recovery continuum, June 2016



Source: National Disaster Recovery Framework Figure 1, Page 5.

Figure 61: Pinellas County RSF structure

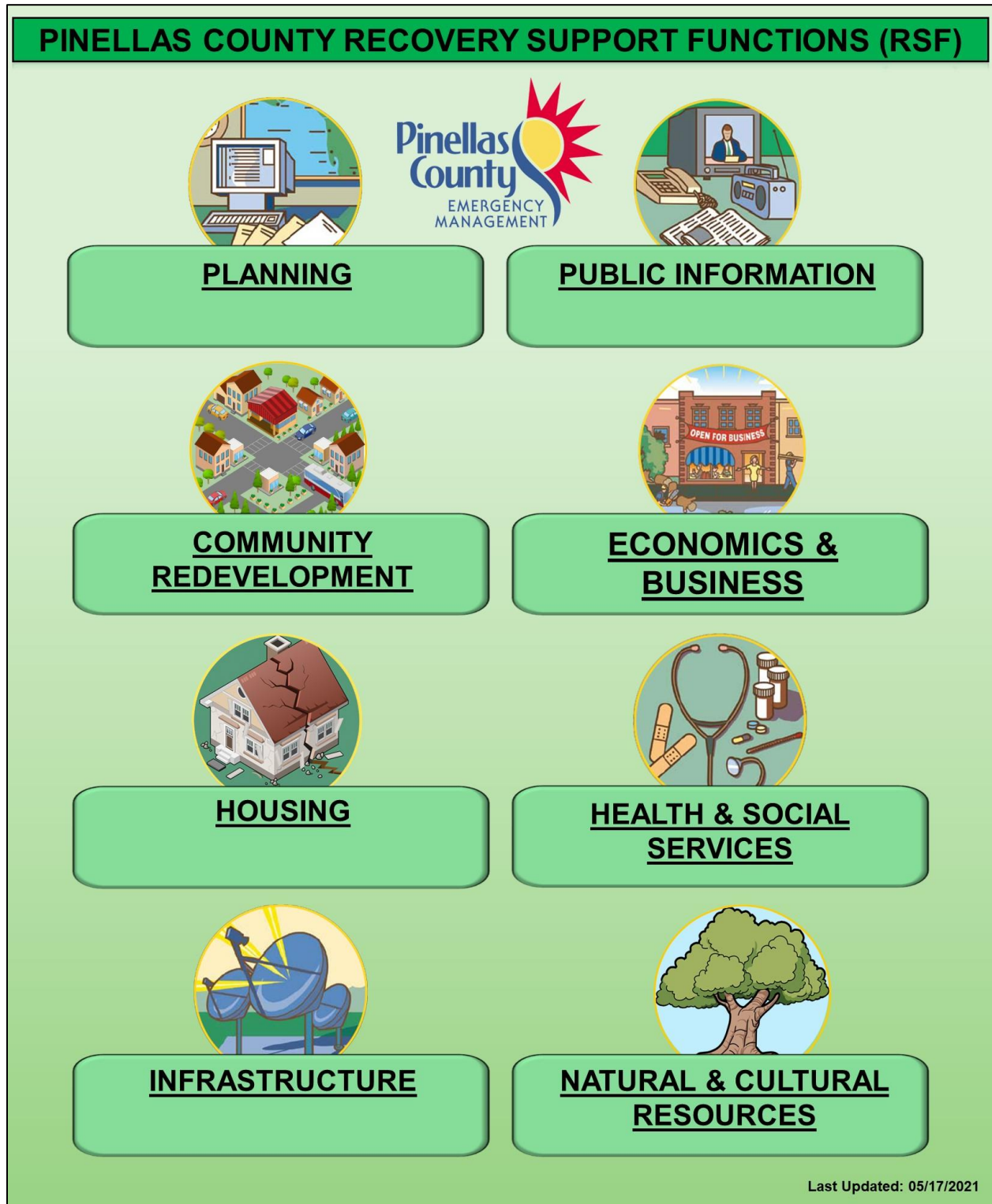
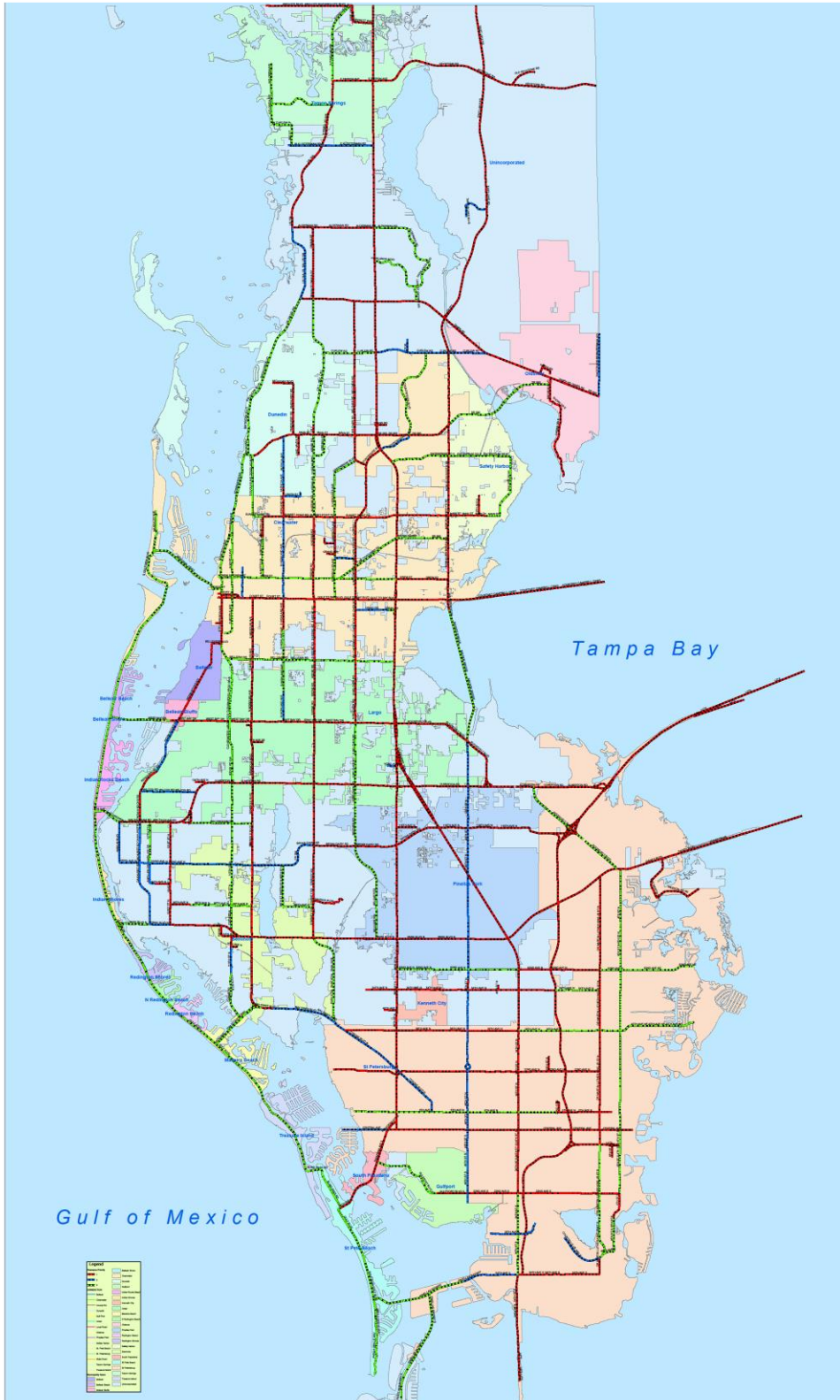


Figure 62: Map of debris clearance priorities and routes, July 2018



Source: PCPW Debris Clearance Plan

11 TABLES

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Table 1: Federal, State, County, Municipal, and NGO partner agencies.

Federal
Federal Emergency Management Agency
National Weather Service
United States Coast Guard
State
Florida Department of Health
Florida Department of Law Enforcement
Florida Department of Transportation
Florida Division of Emergency Management
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Florida Highway Patrol
Pinellas County Government
Forward Pinellas
Pinellas County Administration
Pinellas County Animal Services
Pinellas County Attorney
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
Pinellas County Building Development and Review Services
Pinellas County Business Technology Services
Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court
Pinellas County Communications
Pinellas County Contractor Licensing Department
Pinellas County Convention and Visitors Bureau
Pinellas County Department of Administrative Services
Pinellas County Economic Development
Pinellas County Emergency Management
Pinellas County Housing and Community Development
Pinellas County Human Resources
Pinellas County Human Services
Pinellas County Office of Asset Management
Pinellas County Office of Human Rights
Pinellas County Office of Management and Budget
Pinellas County Office of Technology and Innovation
Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources
Pinellas County Property Appraiser
Pinellas County Public Works
Pinellas County Safety and Emergency Services
Pinellas County School Board
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Pinellas County Solid Waste
Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections
Pinellas County Tax Collector
Pinellas County Utilities
St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport



Municipalities and Special Fire Districts
City of Belleair Beach
City of Belleair Bluffs
City of Clearwater
City of Dunedin
City of Gulfport
City of Indian Rocks Beach
City of Largo
City of Madeira Beach
City of Oldsmar
City of Pinellas Park
City of Safety Harbor
City of Seminole
City of South Pasadena
City of St. Pete Beach
City of St. Petersburg
City of Tarpon Springs
City of Treasure Island
East Lake Fire District
Lealman Fire District
Palm Harbor Fire District
Pinellas Suncoast Fire District
Town of Belleair
Town of Belleair Shore
Town of Indian Shores
Town of Kenneth City
Town of North Redington Beach
Town of Redington Beach
Town of Redington Shores
Partner Organizations
211 Tampa Bay
American Red Cross
Area Agency on Aging
Chamber of Commerce
Duke Energy
Eckerd College
Frontier Communications
Healthcare Facilities
Neighborly Care Network
Salvation Army
St. Petersburg College
Stetson College
Sunstar Paramedics
Tampa Electric Company
University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
University of South Florida

Table 2: Table of overall vulnerability as assessed in the LMS

Each of the five PRI categories was assigned a value from 1 to 4 and the pre-determined weighting factor was applied to calculate a PRI score. PRI scores can range from 1.0 to 4.0 and the overall vulnerability ranking of high, moderate, or low was assigned based on the PRI scores.

FLOOD					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					
A flood or flooding refers to the general or temporary conditions of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland or tidal water and of surface water runoff from any source. While many people underestimate the severity of floods, loss of life and property from flooding are real threats in Pinellas. Pinellas County communities experience several different kinds of floods due to the effects of severe thunderstorms, hurricanes, seasonal rains and other weather-related events.					HIGH
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	
Highly Likely	Critical	Moderate	6 to 12 hrs	< 1 week	3.3
TROPICAL CYCLONE					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					
A tropical cyclone is a rotating, organized system of clouds and thunderstorms that originates over tropical or subtropical waters and has a closed low-level circulation. These storms have been known to transform into tropical storms and even hurricanes. Florida is at risk of experiencing a tropical cyclone due to its tropical climate and vicinity to large bodies of water. There are chances of the effects reaching all parts of the state but, due to high levels of development and concentrated numbers of civilians, the coastlines are vulnerable to greater impacts					HIGH
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	
Likely	Catastrophic	Large	> 24 hrs	< 1 week	3.3
SEVERE STORM					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					
The three key elements of a thunderstorm are wind, water, and lightning. NWS considers a thunderstorm severe if it produces hail at least one inch in diameter, winds of 58 MPH or stronger, or a tornado. Lightning, Flash Floods, Hail, Straight-Line winds, Tornadoes.					HIGH
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	
Highly Likely	Critical	Moderate	6 to 12 hrs	< 6 hrs	3.1
WILDFIRE					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					
Wildfire, or wildland fire, is a fire that was started by lightning or by humans in an area with vegetation. Wildfires occur in Florida every year and can occur within the County at all times of the year as part of the natural cycle of Florida's fire-adapted ecosystems. Wildfires can cause major environmental, social, and economic damages because of the possible loss of life, property, wildlife habitats, and timber.					MODERATE
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	
Possible	Limited	Moderate	6 to 12 hrs	< 1 week	2.5

EROSION						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Coastal erosion is the wearing away of land or the removal of beach or dune sediments by wave action, tidal currents, wave currents, or drainage. Waves generated by storms cause coastal erosion, which may take the form of long-term losses of sediment and rocks, or merely in the temporary redistribution of coastal sediments.						MODERATE
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Likely	Limited	Moderate	> 24 hrs	> 1 week	2.6	
EXTREME HEAT						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Extreme heat is defined as extended period where the temperature and relative humidity combine for a dangerous heat index.						MODERATE
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Likely	Minor	Large	> 24 hrs	> 1 week	2.5	
DROUGHT						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Drought is a deficiency in precipitation over an extended period, usually a season or more, resulting in a water shortage. While droughts are a normal and recurring feature of our climate, sometimes they can endanger vegetation, animals, and even people.						MODERATE
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Likely	Minor	Large	> 24 hrs	> 1 week	2.5	
GEOLOGICAL						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Sinkholes are landforms created when overburden subsides or collapses into fissures or cavities in underlying carbonate rocks. Florida is underlain by several thousand feet of carbonate rock, limestone, and dolostone, with a variably thick mixture of sands, clays, shells, and other near surface carbonate rock units, called overburden.						MODERATE
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Likely	Limited	Small	< 6 hrs	< 24 hrs	2.5	
WINTER STORM & FREEZE						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Severe winter weather includes extreme cold, snowfall, ice storms, winter storms, and/or strong winds, and affects every state in the continental United States. Areas where such weather is uncommon, such as Florida, may experience a greater impact on transportation, agriculture, and people from relatively small events compared to other states that experience winter weather more frequently.						Low
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Possible	Minor	Large	> 24 hrs	< 1 week	2.1	

SEISMIC EVENTS						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
A seismic event, or an earthquake, is a sudden, rapid shaking of the earth caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface that creates seismic waves. This shaking can cause buildings and bridges to collapse; disrupt gas, electric, and phone service; and sometimes trigger landslides, and tsunamis or indirectly cause flash floods or fires.						Low
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Possible	Minor	Moderate	< 6 hrs	< 6 hrs	2.0	
TSUNAMI						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Tsunamis are powerful waves created as a consequence of another non-meteorological, geologic in nature, hazard such as earthquakes, underwater landslides, volcanic eruptions, or other displacements of large amounts of water under the sea. As the waves travel towards land, they build up to higher heights as the depth of the ocean decreases and appear as walls of water or turbulent waves that resemble hurricane storm surge.						Low
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Unlikely	Limited	Small	< 6 hrs	< 6 hrs	1.8	
RED TIDE						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
The term red tide is commonly used to describe certain kinds of HABs, a proliferation of a toxic or nuisance microalgae species. Not all algal blooms are red, and not all harmful algal blooms discolor the water. HABs can include both toxic and non-toxic species; however, all HABs have one important characteristic in common, they can negatively affect natural resources, local economies, and human health.						MODERATE
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Likely	Limited	Small	> 24 hrs	> 1 week	2.4	
TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS						Overall Vulnerability
Overview						
Transportation systems are designed to move people, goods, and services efficiently, economically, and safely from one point to another. As the movement of people, goods, and services increases due to population growth and technological innovation, the need to plan for events becomes increasingly important. Pinellas County has a large transportation network that consists of airports, major highways, passenger railroads, marine ports, and pipelines. These transportation systems provide lifeline services for communities and are vitally important for response and recovery operations. The vast network of public and private critical infrastructure owners and operators, the infrastructure and services they manage, and the extensive interdependencies among the transportation modes and other sectors indicate the need for coordinated planning to manage all hazards efficiently and effectively.						HIGH
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score	
Possible	Critical	Moderate	<6 hours	< 1 week	2.8	

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENT					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					HIGH
A hazardous material is any substance that poses a threat to humans, animals, or the environment. Hazardous materials refers generally to hazardous substances, petroleum, natural gas, synthetic gas, and acutely toxic chemicals. Hazardous materials are defined and regulated in the United States by various laws and regulations. Hazardous materials typically fall into one of three categories: biological hazards, chemical hazards, or radiological hazards.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Possible	Critical	Moderate	< 6 hours	> 1 week	2.9
SPACE WEATHER EVENTS					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					HIGH
Space weather is a broad term used to describe atmospheric events that have the potential to adversely affect conditions on Earth. Space weather events are caused by the interaction of Earth with emissions from the Sun. There are two causes of space weather events, CMEs and solar flares, which are different incidents that occur on the Sun. CMEs and solar flares can cause three different types of space weather events on Earth, geomagnetic storms, solar radiation storms, and radio blackouts.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Unlikely	Catastrophic	Large	< 6 hours	< 6 hours	2.8
RADIOLOGICAL INCIDENTS					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					LOW
Radiation is a form of energy that is naturally present in our everyday lives, and radioactive material is a substance that gives off radiation. There are many types of emergencies that may involve radiation or radioactive materials and may be intentional or unintentional. According to the CDC, the incidents involving radiation that are most likely to occur are a nuclear emergency, a release from a radiological dispersal device, a radiological exposure device, a nuclear power plant accident, a transportation accident, and an occupational accident.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Unlikely	Minor	Negligible	< 6 hours	< 6 hours	1.3
TERRORISM					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					HIGH
Terrorism is defined as “the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof in furtherance of political or social objectives”. This is something that is difficult to mitigate against due to sheer unpredictability. Pinellas County faces a particular threat from events involving terrorism due to the booming tourist industry, international ports, etc.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Possible	Critical	Moderate	< 6 hours	> 1 week	2.9

AGRICULTURAL DISRUPTION					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					HIGH
Hazards in the agricultural industry come in the form of pests, disease, and severe weather conditions. The industry brings in \$8 billion in cash receipts to the state of Florida. Weather poses a threat to Florida due to the subtropical nature of the state and the time of year that many of the harvests take place. As a popular destination for tourism and international business, the state faces an increased threat of foreign disease and pest infestations, as well.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Unlikely	Critical	Large	< 6 hours	> 1 week	2.8
BIOLOGICAL INCIDENTS					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					Moderate
Biological incidents are incidents involving bacteria, viruses, or toxins that can all be harmful or deadly to humans and animals. These various actors are called biological agents. It is important to note that these can be naturally occurring or intentionally placed into a society. The act of intentionally placing these biological agents into a society in order to harm people or animals is referred to as bioterrorism.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Possible	Limited	Small	> 24 hours	< 1 week	2.1
MASS MIGRATION					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					LOW
Florida's proximity to the Caribbean Basin makes it a vulnerable point of entry for a massive influx of immigrants and refugees entering the United States. While the majority come from the Caribbean, they can come from other locations such as Mexico and South America. The consequences of a mass arrival of undocumented entrants include the threat of health, safety, and welfare of citizens and that of entrants that may be detained for an extended length of time.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Unlikely	Minor	Moderate	> 24 hours	> 1 week	1.7
CIVIL DISTURBANCE INCIDENTS					Overall Vulnerability
Overview					HIGH
Civil disturbance is an activity such as a demonstration, riot, or strike that disrupts a community and requires intervention to maintain safety in the community. The different types of gatherings include impromptu and organized. Civil disturbance incidents tend to occur in urban locations but can realistically happen anywhere.					
Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Possible	Critical	Moderate	< 6 hours	< 1 week	2.8

Table 3: EOC activation level and expected activities

<p>Level 4 – Normal Operations <i>Monitor local and regional incidents and evaluate potential threats</i></p>
<p><i>Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM) Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures operational readiness and preparedness • Coordinates with County departments and partners as needed • Duty Officer (DO) is the lead for situational awareness
<p><i>Expected County Department Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor communications for notifications from PCEM • Ensure plans, communication systems, contacts, etc. are up to date • Notify DO and/or on call personnel of incidents (assistance needed, situation updates, etc.)
<p><i>Recommended Partner Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor communications for notifications from PCEM • Ensure plans, communication systems, contacts, etc. are up to date • Notify PCEM DO and/or on call personnel of incidents requiring assistance
<p>Level 3 – Enhanced Monitoring <i>An incident requires PCEM to take action or coordinate efforts</i></p>
<p><i>PCEM Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informs County Administration of situation being monitored • DO function ceases, EOC Planning Section activates with PCEM personnel • Situation Reports issued • Conference calls/meetings organized as necessary • Consult with SMEs to obtain additional information • Coordinate with Pinellas County Communications (PCC) for public messaging as needed • Non-incident meetings and events cancelled as necessary • Establish WebEOC incident, if deemed appropriate • Begin notification of Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) Regional Coordinator • For tropical events, implement Storm Activation Lead Time (SALT) activities
<p><i>Expected County Department Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the situation and coordinate with PCEM as needed • Activate plans, policies and contracts, as applicable • Share Situation Reports and information with other department personnel • Share public information/coordinate with PCC, as appropriate • County SMEs may be called upon by PCEM to provide additional information • Provide updates to PCEM via WebEOC and Conference Call(s) as appropriate
<p><i>Recommended Partner Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor the situation and coordinate with PCEM as needed • Share Situation Reports and information with agency personnel • Share and coordinate public information dissemination as needed • Activate plans, policies and contracts, as applicable • Agency SMEs may be called upon by PCEM to provide additional information • Provide updates to PCEM via WebEOC and Conference Call(s) as appropriate
<p>Level 2 – Partial Activation <i>An incident requires limited coordination and support at the EOC</i></p>
<p><i>PCEM Activities</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate Executive Policy Group (EPG) • Activate necessary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Sections, Branches, Units, etc. • Activate needed staff/facilitates/contracts to support activation and documentation activities • Notify selected EOC staff that may be required to report • Planning meetings and conference calls scheduled on regular basis



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Planning “P” and Battle Rhythm • Coordinate public information with PCC • Establish WebEOC incident if not done previously
<i>Expected County Department Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide EOC, CIC, SME, etc. and other staff as required/necessary • Activate necessary Disaster Assignment staff and support • Prepare employees and facilities for impacts (if applicable) • Prepare staff to fulfill disaster assignments and scheduling personnel for duties • Activate appropriate plans, policies, and procedures • Participate and provide updates in meetings/conference calls and via WebEOC • Coordinate public information with PCC
<i>Recommended Partner Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide EOC, SME, etc. and other staff as required/necessary • Prepare employees and facilities for impacts (if applicable) • Activate appropriate plans, policies, and procedures • Participate and provide updates in meetings/conference calls and via WebEOC • Share and coordinate public information dissemination
<p>Level 1 – Full Activation <i>An incident requires a high level of coordination and support at the EOC</i></p>
<i>PCEM Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate all EOC Sections, Branches, Units, etc. • Activate all staff/facilities/contracts needed to support activation activities • Notify all EOC staff that are required to report • Continue Planning “P” and Battle Rhythm • Coordinate public information with PCC • Establish WebEOC incident if not done previously
<i>Expected County Department Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide all EOC, CIC, SME, etc. and other staff as required/necessary • Activate all necessary Disaster Assignment staff and support • Prepare all employees and facilities for impacts (if applicable) • Prepare staff to fulfill disaster assignments • Activate all appropriate plans, policies, and procedures • Participate and provide updates in meetings/conference calls and via WebEOC
<i>Recommended Partner Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide EOC, CIC, SME, etc. and other staff as required/necessary • Prepare employees and facilities for impacts (if applicable) • Activate all appropriate plans, policies, and procedures • Participate and provide updates in meetings/conference calls and via WebEOC • Share and coordinate public information dissemination

Source: PCEM May 2021

Table 4: Emergency Management and Disaster Financial Programs

Financial Program	Authority	Phase	Cycle
Community Development Block Grants	Housing and Community Development Act of 1974	Recovery Mitigation	Upon Notice of Funds Available
EMPG	FSS 252 FAC 27P-19	Preparedness Mitigation	Annual
Emergency Management, Preparedness Assistance Base Grant	FSS 252 FAC 27P-19	Preparedness	Annual
EPCRA Grant	FSS 252	Preparedness	Annual
Federal Mitigation Grant Programs	Public Law 93-288	Recovery Mitigation	Pre/Post Disaster
Flood Mitigation Assistance Program	National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994	Mitigation	Upon Notice of Funds Available
Florida Community Trust	FSS 380 FAC 9K-1 - 9K-6	Mitigation	Annual
HMGP	Stafford Act	Mitigation	Upon Federal Disaster Declaration
Individual and Family Grant	44 CFR, Part 206	Recovery	Upon Federal Disaster Declaration
IA Program	Stafford Act	Recovery	Upon Federal Disaster Declaration
Large Project Grant	Public Law 93-288	Recovery	Upon Federal Disaster Declaration
PA Program	Stafford Act	Response Recovery Mitigation	Upon Federal Disaster Declaration
SHSP	Homeland Security Act of 2002	Preparedness Mitigation Response	Upon Notice of Funds Available
SBA Loans	13 CFR, Section 123	Recovery	Upon SBA Disaster Declaration
Small Project Grant	Public Law 93-288	Recovery	Upon Federal Disaster Declaration
State and Local Assistance Grant	FAC 27P-11	Preparedness	Annual
UASI	Homeland Security Act of 2002	Preparedness	Upon Notice of Funds Available

12 ACRONYMS

AAR	After Action Report
ACE	Army Corps of Engineers
ACS	Auxiliary Communications Service
AHCA	Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
ALF	Assisted Living Facility
ARC	American Red Cross
ATMS/ITS	Advanced Transportation Management System/Intelligent Transportation System
BCC	Board of County Commissioners
BEAS	Billboard Emergency Alert System
BIC-C	Barrier Islands Governmental Council
CAMEO	Computer-Aided Management of Emergency Operations
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
CFR	United States Code of Federal Regulations
CHAMP	Coalition for Health and Medical Preparedness
CIC	County Information Center
CIKR	Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources
CISA	Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency
CISM	Critical Incident Stress Management
CME	Coronal Mass Ejection
COG	Continuity of Government
COMP Plan	Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan
COOP	Continuity of Operations
CSA	County Staging Area
DAPA	Disaster Assignment and Preparedness Assessment
DEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
DMS	Dynamic Messaging Signs
DO	Duty Officer
DRC	Disaster Recovery Center
EAP	Emergency Access Permits
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EMPG	Emergency Management Preparedness Grant
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
EPG	Executive Policy Group
ESF	Emergency Support Function
ESS	Emergency Status System
FAC	Florida Administrative Code
FDACS	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
FDEM	Florida Division of Emergency Management

FDLE	Florida Department of Law Enforcement
FDOH	Florida Department of Health
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FM	Frequency Modulation
FSS	Florida State Statutes
GETS	Government Emergency Telecommunications Service
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GPS	Global Positioning System
HAB	Hazardous Algae Bloom
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
HIRA	Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
HMGP	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HSEEP	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
HURREVAC	Hurricane Evacuation
IA	Individual Assistance
IAP	Incident Action Plan
ICS	Incident Command System
IDA	Initial Damage Assessment
IDSS	Impact-Based Decision Support Services
IP	Improvement Plan
IPAWS	Integrated Public Alert and Warning System
IPP	Integrated Preparedness Plan
JFO	Joint Field Office
JIS	Joint Information System
JPDA	Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment
LCAT	Leadership Committee and Action Team
LEPC	Local Emergency Planning Committee
LMS	Local Mitigation Strategy
LMSWG	Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group
LTC	Long Term Care
MAC	Multi Agency Coordination
MEMO	Municipal Emergency Management Organization
MEOW	Maximum Envelope of Water
MHz	Megahertz
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOM	Maximum of MEOWs
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPH	Miles Per Hour
MSAT	Mobile Satellite
NDPC	National Domestic Preparedness Consortium
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHC	National Hurricane Center

NIMS	National Incident Management System
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWS	National Weather Service
PA	Public Assistance
PAPPG	Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide
PCAS	Pinellas County Animal Services
PCBDRS	Pinellas County Building and Development Review Services
PCBTS	Pinellas County Business Technology Services
PCC	Pinellas County Communications
PCCLD	Pinellas County Contractor Licensing Department
PCC-TV	Pinellas County Connection Television
PCDAS	Pinellas County Department of Administrative Services
PCED	Pinellas County Economic Development
PCEM	Pinellas County Emergency Management
PCFCA	Pinellas County Fire Chiefs Association
PCHCD	Pinellas County Housing and Community Development
PCHR	Pinellas County Human Resources
PCHS	Pinellas County Human Services
PCOMB	Pinellas County Office of Management and Budget
PCPAO	Pinellas County Property Appraiser’s Office
PCPW	Pinellas County Public Works
PCSB	Pinellas County School Board
PCSES	Pinellas County Safety and Emergency Services
PCSO	Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office
PDRP	Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan
PELICAN	Pinellas Emergency Level Interoperable Critical Analysis
PIO	Public Information Officer
PNP	Private Non Profit
POD	Point of Distribution
PRI	Priority Risk Index
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PSTA	Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
RCC	Recovery Coordination Center
RDSTF	Regional Domestic Security Task Force
ROC	Response Operation Coordination Group
ROW	Right Of Way
RSF	Recovery Support Function
RTF	Recovery Task Force
RV	Recreation Vehicle
SALT	Storm Activation Lead Time
SBA	Small Business Administration
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SERC	State Hazardous Material Emergency Response Commission
SHSP	State Homeland Security Program

SLOSH	Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes
SMAA	Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement
SME	Subject Matter Expert
SOG	Standard Operating Guidelines
SPC	St. Petersburg College
SRES	Statewide Regional Evacuation Studies
SSHWS	Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale
SVI	Social Vulnerability Index
SWO	State Watch Office
TCR	Tropical Cyclone Report
UASI	Urban Area Security Initiative
USC	United States Code
VIP	Volunteers in Pinellas
VRC	Volunteer Reception Center
WAND	Warning and Notification Database
WPS	Wireless Priority Service
YOA	Years of Age

APPENDIX 1: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section is intended to capture key roles and responsibilities of entities who are essential to disaster preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. It is not all inclusive. It is the responsibility of the entities listed below to inform PCEM of changes to capabilities.

Pinellas County Government Agencies

Board of County Commissioners (BCC)

- Provide for the continuance of effective and orderly governmental control required for Emergency Operations, in the event of impending or actual disaster.
- Make emergency policy decisions and issue necessary ordinances and proclamations relative to any in-progress emergency operation.
- Declare a Local State of Emergency when necessary.
- With the recommendations of the EPG and ROC, direct and compel the timely evacuation or appropriate protective measures for citizens for any impacted or threatened area within the County.
- Execute agreements with state and federal disaster relief agencies.
- Promulgate and re-issue the CEMP at least every four years.

Pinellas County Administrator

- Inform the BCC of ongoing emergency operations during local disasters, and of hurricane preparations prior to activation of the EOC.
- Serve as a member of the EPG.
- Prioritize County government essential functions to maintain COG.
- Request County BCC departments to provide resources and personnel to fulfill disaster assignments where needed during an emergency or disaster.
- Issue any necessary orders, such as protective measures and/or mandatory evacuations, as delegated during a Local State of Emergency.
- Establish an order of succession plan for County Administration.
- Determine any modifications to County operations and policies to ensure appropriate response to an incident.
- Coordinate and implement necessary actions with municipal entities and appointing authorities.
- Participate in incident planning meetings as necessary.
- Designate a Recovery Manager as needed.
- Activate PDRP as determined necessary during the recovery phase.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as desired.
- Encourage employee preparedness and BCC County department participation in disaster planning, exercises, and operations.
- Delegate responsibilities to the Deputy County Administrator and Chief of Staff and/or Assistant County Administrators to ensure successful response and recovery activities.

All Pinellas County BCC Departments

- Create, maintain and update department level and ESF assigned plans, policies and job aids.
- Designate EM Liaison/Coordinator to work with PCEM year round.
- Assign or provide employees to essential disaster assignments where needed during an emergency or disaster.
- Ensure contracts and procurement mechanisms are in place for items that may be needed year round and at department run operational sites.
- Ensure operational readiness of facilities, equipment, vehicles, and personnel.
- Ensure operational readiness of communications equipment and plans.
- Conduct annual risk assessment, plan for and implement procedures to secure equipment and facilities against hazards, including but not limited to flooding or hurricane winds, and if necessary, remove equipment and records to safe areas.
- Plan for and implement COOP procedures.
- Establish an order of succession for the department and provide an official order of succession memorandum to PCEM annually.
- Designate staff to document maintenance records year-round and costs associated with response and recovery operations and damages.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.
- Encourage employee preparedness, and participate in disaster planning, exercises, and operations.

Pinellas County Animal Services (PCAS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF# 17 Animals and Agriculture.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.

Pinellas County Building and Development Review Services (PCBDRS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Modify procedures and ensure building permit issuance if necessary.
- Conduct damage assessments in coordination with PCDAS and PCPAO by providing personnel, vehicles, and communications equipment to County Damage Assessment Teams.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Communications (PCC)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
 - Support agency for ESF #15 Volunteer and Donations.
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.

- Coordinate with PCEM and partner agencies to develop public education campaigns and materials to engage and educate residents.
- Lead the Regional PIO Working Group.
- Establish a system to coordinate video and photo archives of the event

Pinellas County Convention and Visitors Bureau (PCCVB)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.
- Develop and maintain a crisis communications plan for the tourism industry for emergencies and disasters.
- Assess status of available commercial services, accommodations, and other resources for incident response and recovery.

Pinellas County Contractor Licensing Department (PCCLD)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Monitor and investigate reports related to contractor licensing, and provide educational resources for consumers.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Department of Administrative Services (PCDAS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #7 Resource Management.
 - Support agency for ESF #12 Energy.
 - Support agency for ESF #15 Volunteer and Donations.
- Execute and maintain County contracts as necessary, to include language compliant with federal, state, and local requirements.
- Lead the EOC Damage Assessment Unit responsible for coordinating damage assessment operations across the county.
- Provide and/or lease vehicles/equipment for emergency operations and recovery.
- Maintain and repair the fleet vehicles, equipment, and generators.
- Maintain an employee emergency monitor program at each county facility for severe weather events.
- Assess and provide guidance for designating indoor sheltering locations for emergencies at county facilities.
- Assist with delivery of shelf stable meals or other supplies to Departments as needed.
- Assess and restore functionality of County facilities, and obtain temporary facilities for emergency response and recovery as necessary.

- Provide qualified staff for the Safety Officer function for the EOC and County sites operating during emergencies/activations, including the development of safety plans and messages.
- Coordinate with the EOC Finance and Administration Section as needed.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Economic Development (PCED)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Manage post-disaster economic redevelopment.
- Assess status of available commercial services, accommodations, and other resources for incident response and recovery.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Emergency Management (PCEM)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Lead agency for ESF #5 Planning.
 - Lead agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Lead agency for ESF #7 Resource Management.
 - Lead agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
 - Lead agency for ESF #12 Energy.
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #4 Firefighting.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Material and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #13 Military Support.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
 - Support agency for ESF #15 Volunteer and Donations.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.
- Develop and maintain the *CEMP* and all supportive Volumes.
- The Emergency Management Director serves as EOC Director.
- The Emergency Management Director serves as a member of the EPG.
- Provide coordination for emergency management planning for all hazards among NGOs, local, state, and federal entities.
- Serve as the liaison between FDEM and municipal, County, and local partner agencies as required.

- Analyze hazards, for year round planning and to coordinate the implementation of emergency protective measures as needed.
- Coordinate requests for emergency assistance and mutual aid as required.
- Maintain operational readiness of the EOC including software, communications equipment, supplies and contracts to support activations.
- In coordination with the EPG, PCSES, and PCC, order the activation and operation of the CIC as necessary.
- Develop and implement hazards awareness and preparedness programs in coordination with partner agencies.
- Coordinate and maintain supply of resources to support emergency operations such as field operations, shelters, PODs, and staging areas.

Pinellas County Employee Relations and Workforce

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #5 Planning.
- Develop and maintain personnel policies for BCC Departments.
- Coordinate disaster personnel policies with Appointing Authorities.

Pinellas County Housing and Community Development (PCHCD)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for #7 Resource Management.
- Coordinate year-round with PCEM regarding changes in land use zoning.
- Assist in post-disaster re-development of community.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.
- Lead the Local Disaster Housing Task Force.
- Lead mitigation planning, coordination, and outreach within the county.

Pinellas County Human Services (PCHS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Coordinate and maintain a network of partner agencies and contracted services to assist residents before, during and after a disaster.
- Coordinate the dissemination of fraud and consumer protection information before and after an incident.
- Support shelter operations for cold weather conditions.
- Assist in coordinating and connecting special populations, including veterans, elderly, and homeless residents with relevant services before and after a disaster.

- Serve as the lead liaison to the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to fulfill unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.

Pinellas County Office of Management and Budget (PCOMB)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency to ESF #5 Planning.
 - Support agency for ESF #7 Resource Management.
- Lead the EOC Finance and Administration Section.
- Provide overall financial documentation and management before, during, and after a disaster.
- Establish and maintain a single cost center system whereby emergency/disaster costs are identified and accumulated for state and federal reimbursements under the PA process.
- Responsible for consolidating and submitting all PA-related information for County departments and County facility damages, as appropriate.
- Establish and maintain a system to meet finance, payroll, and other payment obligations during emergency conditions.
- Compile economic impact of disasters, based on damages, loss revenues, reduced tourism, and increased costs.
- Provide periodic training sessions concerning guidelines and processes involving state and federal disaster assistance or provide information on training opportunities.

Pinellas County Office of Technology and Innovation (PCOTI)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Maintain, support, and identify technological resources and contracts.
- Coordinate with PCBTS on cybersecurity matters.

Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources (PCPCR)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #7 Resource Management.
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.

Pinellas County Public Works (PCPW)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Coordinate with regional, state and federal agencies for environmental issues including open spaces and beaches.

- Maintain County floodplain management and coordinate flood related services, databases, plans and procedures.
- Maintain County contracts and planning for debris clearance and removal.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Safety and Emergency Services (PCSES)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #4 Firefighting.
 - Co-Lead for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Lead agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Lead agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Manage and maintain the primary County PSAP and report required incidents to the FDEM SWO as soon practical following the initial incident response.
- Develop and implement notification to County employees and leadership of acute emergency incidents in or around County facilities, as appropriate.
- Prepare and distribute personal protective equipment to first responders.
- Lead for mass casualty incidents.

Pinellas County Solid Waste (PCSW)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #12 Energy.

Pinellas County Sustainability and Resiliency

- Assist in the analysis of threats, hazards, and community resiliency.
- Assist in the development of emergency management plans as appropriate.
- Assist with the identification of new and emerging green technologies to support emergency services.
- Lead the EOC Recovery Branch.

Pinellas County Utilities (PCU)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.

- Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Material and Environmental Protection.
- Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #4 Firefighting.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Material and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Develop and maintain aviation incident planning and coordinate with tenant airlines.

Pinellas County Appointing Authorities and Constitutional Officers

All Appointing Authorities and Constitutional Officers

- Create, maintain and update agency level and ESF assigned plans, policies, and job aids.
- Designate liaisons/coordinators to work with PCEM year round.
- Provide employees without department essential disaster assignments as County essential to be reassigned where needed during an emergency or disaster.
- Plan for and implement COOP procedures.
- Establish an order of succession for the agency annually and provide an official order of succession memorandum to PCEM.
- Secure equipment and facilities against flooding or hurricane winds at sites or office locations, and if necessary, remove equipment and records to safe areas.
- Designate staff to document the cost of response and recovery operations and damage.

Pinellas County Attorney

- The County Attorney serves as a member of the EPG.
- Advise County officials concerning legal responsibilities, powers and liabilities regarding emergency operations and post disaster and recovery assistance.
- Draft Local State of Emergency and executive orders as needed.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Business Technology Services (PCBTS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #2 Communications.
 - Support agency for ESF #5 Planning.
- Provide GIS services through all phases of emergency management.

- Lead County planning, communications, response, and recovery for cybersecurity incidents.
- Support restoration of data processing and telecommunications services to internal customers for continuity of operations.
- Maintain, support, and identify technological resources, equipment, and contracts.
- Support and troubleshoot technological issues in the EOC, CIC, and County operations centers.
- Assist in establishing communications at field sites as requested.

Forward Pinellas

- Assist in post-disaster re-development of community.
- Participate in the Local Disaster Housing Task Force as requested.

Pinellas County Human Resources (PCHR)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #15 Volunteer and Donations.
- Serve as a liaison to the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas).
- Activate the Employee Emergency Information Hotline for Pinellas County government employees to access information before, during, and after an emergency.
- Assist in the record management of all employees, their work assignments, and status before, during and after an emergency.
- Maintain and manage the County volunteer program for use during normal operations and during an emergency.
- Provide information and assistance to County employees regarding the applicable personnel policies during emergencies.
- In cooperation with the PCEM, deliver training programs for all County employees on emergency planning and disaster preparedness.
- Assist employees with supportive services, including but not limited to insurance claims, health/wellness, temporary housing, childcare, and state/federal assistance programs.

Pinellas County Office of Human Rights

- Ensure the County complies with all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to discrimination and equal opportunity employment.
- Investigate cases of discrimination in the areas of fair housing, employment, public accommodations, and government programs and assistance.
- Provide recommendations, guidance, and advise on human rights related issues.

Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide support to the EOC Finance and Administration Section.
- Provide payroll assistance to County employees.

- Participate in the PA process for any changes needed to normal finance rules.

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Material and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- The Sheriff serves as a member of the EPG.

Pinellas County Property Appraiser (PCPAO)

- Conduct damage assessment operations in coordination with PCDAS and PCBDRS.
- Provide relevant emergency and disaster information, including but not limited to tax abatement and assessing value after damage.

Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections

- Assess and plan emergency and disaster impacts related to elections, including the need to change voting locations or procedures as the result of an incident.

Pinellas County Tax Collector

- Assist with the planning for emergency and disaster related impacts to the tax revenues.

Partner Agencies

211 Tampa Bay

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.

American Red Cross (ARC)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.

- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Amtrak

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.

Area Agency on Aging

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
- Assist with preparedness and planning for elderly and disabled populations.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.

AT&T

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Clearwater Gas

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency #12 Energy.

Colleges and Universities

- Support the unmet needs process and community response.

Contracted Transportation Service Providers

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.

CSX Transportation

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.

Daystar Life Center

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.

Disability Achievement Center

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.

Duke Energy

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #12 Energy.
- Report system operability to the EOC.
- Assess priority restoration needs year round and coordinate and implement as able during incidents.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Eckerd College

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.

Faith Based Partners

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #15 Volunteers and Donations.
- Support planning, preparedness, response and recovery activities, as able.
- Provide support personnel for Critical Incident Stress Management.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.
- Support local planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery as appropriate/required.

Feeding Tampa Bay

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
- Support the unmet needs process and community response.

Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #4 Firefighting.

Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.

Florida Department of Children and Families

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
- Implement Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs as appropriate.

Florida Department of Corrections

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.

Florida Department of Elder Affairs

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Florida Department of Financial Services

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #4 Firefighting.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County (FDOH – Pinellas)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Co-Lead agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- The FDOH – Pinellas Director serves as a member of the EPG.
- Serve as the lead agency for public health incidents and emergencies.
- Responsible for collecting and reporting IDA information relating to hospitals and nursing homes.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.
- Lead for Public Health Emergencies.

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Florida Department of Military Affairs

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #13 Military Support.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Services.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)

- Support local planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery as appropriate/required.
- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.

- Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF# 3 Public Works and Services.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Florida Health Care Association

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.

Florida Highway Patrol (FHP)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Florida National Guard (FLNG)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Lead agency for ESF# 13 Military Support.
 - Support agency for ESF #7 Resource Management.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Habitat for Humanity

- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.

Homeless Leadership Alliance Board (HLA)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
- Lead for cold weather sheltering.

Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agencies for ESF #8 Health and Medical.

- Support the unmet needs process and community response.
- Update ESS with bed counts as requested.

Humane Society of Pinellas

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.

Juvenile Welfare Board

- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.

Local Chambers of Commerce

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.
- Provide liaison to the EOC during activation when requested.

Mac Dill Air Force Base

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #13 Military Support.

Medical Examiner

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.
- Lead for Mass Fatality Incidents.

Mobile Satellite Technologies (Sat-Runners)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.

Municipalities

- Develop a local CEMP, plans, policies and procedures as appropriate.
- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agencies for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agencies for ESF #2 Communications.
 - Support agencies for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agencies for ESF #4 Firefighting.
 - Support agencies for ESF #5 Planning.
 - Support agencies for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agencies for ESF #7 Resource Management.
 - Support agencies for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agencies for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agencies for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agencies for ESF #11 Food and Water.

- Support agencies for ESF #12 Energy.
- Support agencies for ESF #13 Military Support.
- Support agencies for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Support agencies for ESF #15 Volunteers and Donations.
- Support agencies for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Support agencies for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.
- Support agencies for ESF #18 Business and Industry.
- Serve as members of the MEMO.
- Serve as a members of the LMSWG.
- Establish orders of succession for the municipality annually and provide official orders of succession memorandum to PCEM.
- Conduct residential damage assessment operations within their respective municipal boundaries.
- Support the unmet needs process and community response.
- Provide staffing and/or services at community based sites such as shelters, PODs, DRCs as agreed upon or requested.
- Submit individual applications for PA directly to FEMA under the PA Program.

Neighborhood Care Network

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.

Peak Satellite Services (EOC Trac-Star System)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.

Personal Enrichment Through Mental Health Services (PEMHS)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.

Pinellas County School Board (PCSB)

- Develop, maintain and implement planning, policies and processes to communicate community or school related emergencies.
- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.
- The PCSB Superintendent serves as a member of the EPG.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.
- Assist with identification of risk shelters and mitigation opportunities.

Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #14 Public Information.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Public Defender’s Office – State of Florida Sixth (6th) Judicial Circuit

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Recover Pinellas

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #15 Volunteer and Donations.
- Serve as the County’s Long Term Recovery Committee.
- Manage monetary donations.
- Promote cooperation and coordination among local government, County, state, federal, and voluntary agencies to address unmet recovery needs of individuals and families.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Religious Community Services

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.

Salvation Army

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
- Provide staffing and/or services at DRCs as requested.
- Participate in the Long-Term Recovery Committee (Recover Pinellas) to assist in fulfilling unmet needs, including case management, during recovery operations.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Small Business Administration (SBA)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #18 Business and Industry.

SPCA Tampa Bay

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.

Spectrum

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.

- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

St. Petersburg College (SPC)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #6 Mass Care.

St. Petersburg Free Clinic

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.

State Attorney’s Office – State of Florida Sixth (6th) Judicial Circuit

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

State of Florida Sixth (6th) Judicial Circuit

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Sunstar

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
- Staff the EOC infirmary when requested.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger (TBNTEH)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Tampa Bay Water

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.

Tampa International Airport

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.

Tampa Port Authority

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.

Tarpon Springs Shephard Center

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #11 Food and Water.

Tampa Electric/Peoples Gas

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #12 Energy.
- Report system operability to the EOC.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

United States Army Corp of Engineers (ACE)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.

United States Coast Guard (USCG)

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #3 Public Works and Systems.
 - Support agency for ESF #4 Firefighting.
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.
 - Support agency for ESF #9 Search and Rescue.
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.
 - Support agency for ESF #13 Military Support.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

United States Customs and Border Protection

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

United States Department of Defense

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #13 Military Support.

United States Department of Health and Human Services

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.

United States Department of Veterans Affairs

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #8 Health and Medical.

United States Environmental Protection Agency

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #10 Hazardous Materials and Environmental Protection.

United States Special Operations Command

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #13 Military Support.

United States Transportation Security Administration

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #1 Transportation.
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

University of Florida (UF) Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Extension Services

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #17 Animals and Agriculture.

University of South Florida

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #16 Law Enforcement.

Verizon

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #2 Communications.
- Provide staff to the EOC during activation when requested.

Volunteer Florida

- Fulfill responsibilities identified in Volume III – Emergency Support Functions:
 - Support agency for ESF #15 Volunteer and Donations.